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THE INSURRECTION IN JAMAICA.

THE negro insurrection in Jamaica has taken every one in England so completely by surprise that even now, when Governor Eyre's copious report on the subject has been published, it is difficult to understand whether it is the result of

a regularly organised conspiracy or only a furious outbreak provoked by unforeseen occurrences, and of which the rapid extension is to be accounted for by the old hatred of the black population for their natural superiors—whether as masters or as legislators—the whites. But, whether insur-

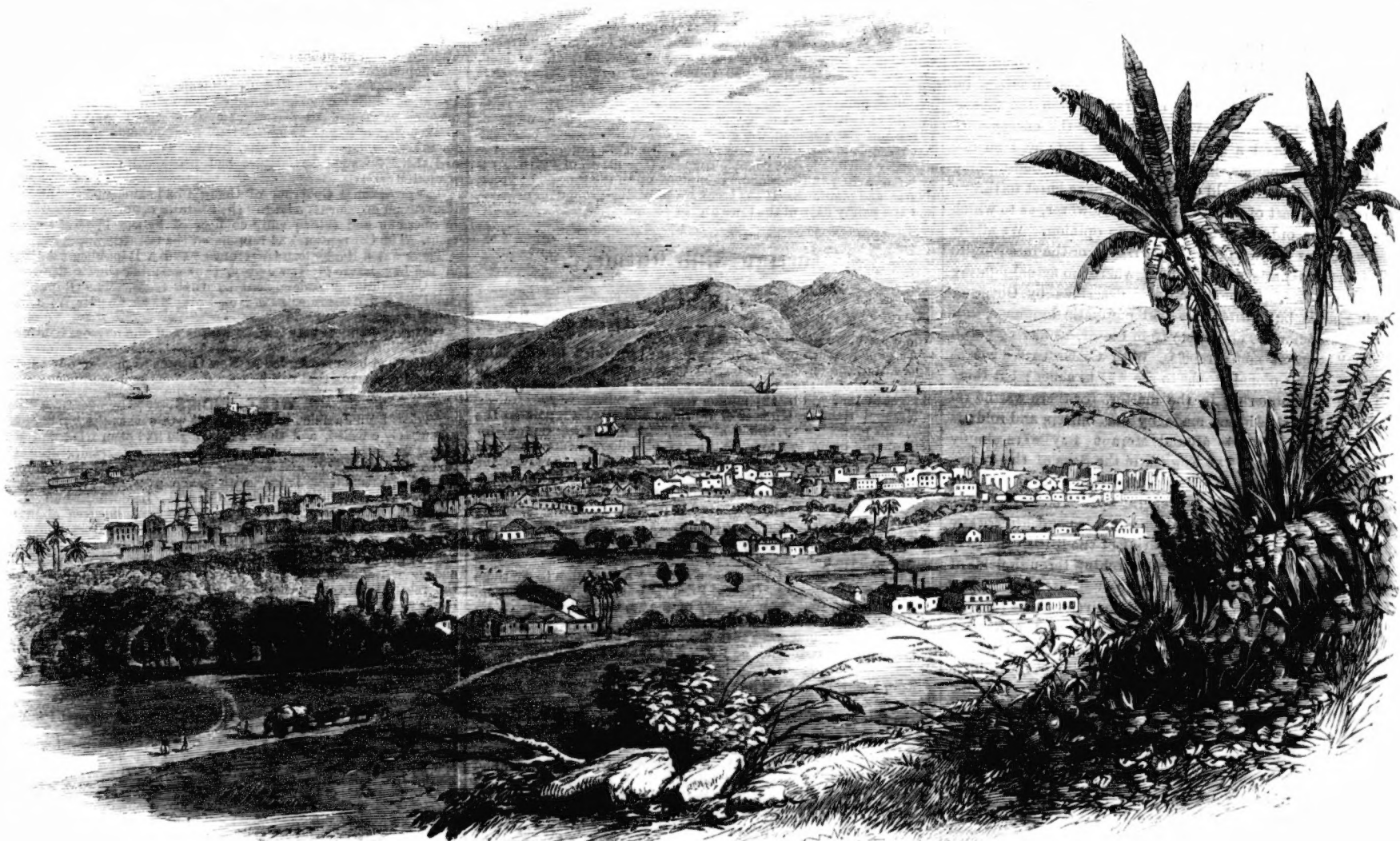
rection had been deliberately planned or not, it appears certain that a rising of some kind must have been meditated; at least it must have been thought of and talked about, for the question of the relations in which blacks should stand to whites has, of late, been much agitated wherever there are



THE TOWN OF BATH, JAMAICA.



PORT ANTONIO, JAMAICA.



THE CITY OF KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

negroes, and in America has been made the groundwork of a terrible war, in which the cause of the black man has been triumphantly successful. It is impossible but that the new position of the negro population in the southern states of America should not have struck the imagination of the negroes of Jamaica; and we know, as a positive fact, that visitors, supposed to be emissaries, from the neighbouring island of Hayti, where the blacks enjoy the doubtful advantage of governing themselves, have been arrested in Jamaica by order of the Governor. The negroes, according to one theory, fancied the day had come, not for their deliverance—for in Jamaica they have been free for upwards of a generation, and enjoy precisely the same civil and political rights as white men—but for establishing their dominion absolutely over the white minority. They are accused of having formed a design for the extermination of the white inhabitants and the division of their property among the blacks; but while there is no evidence to prove that such a design was entertained, several facts have occurred to show that no indiscriminate hatred on the part of the negro insurgents towards the whites can have existed. A surgeon who had been seized by the insurgents, rebels, or whatever they are to be called, "cried out that he was a medical man and Dr. Major's partner, on which he was liberated," or, as the correspondent who gives this information afterwards expresses it, "the ruffians at once released him, though not without a warning to mind what he was about"—a most alarming caution, certainly! M. Alberga's cries of "Spare my child!" moved, we are told, "the heart of a woman, who took the little innocent away and conveyed him to his mother"—a kind of incident of which we had no example during the Indian mutiny, when the aim of the sepoys was without doubt the destruction of all the English in India. One gentleman is said to have had "a miraculous escape" because, having been made prisoner by the negroes, he was set free as soon as he explained that he had only recently arrived in the island, and had done the people no harm! "After some consultation," writes the correspondent from whom we have before quoted, "they agreed to release him, but called his attention to the warning which their proceedings conveyed." Finally, when an unfortunate clerk was about to be put to death, and his wife implored the negroes to spare his life, "the fellows, satiated with carnage, granted her request."

But, while from the facts it seems evident that no plan for exterminating the white population of the island had been conceived, or, at least, that no systematic attempt was made to carry it into execution, we must not forget that there are many points about the rising which give it a formidable as well as a hateful character. Not only have cruelties of the most horrible description been practised by the negroes actually in revolt, but, if the most prompt measures of repression had not been adopted, it seems highly possible that the spirit of insubordination would have spread throughout the island. This, however, is a point which in all likelihood will never be decided. The pseudo-philanthropical party in England will always maintain that the demonstrations at Morant Bay had only a local character, and that what is called the "Morant Bay massacre" was only a measure of retaliation, more or less justifiable as a whole, provoked by the very hasty manner in which the Morant Bay volunteers fired upon a mob of negroes when that mob, though it had not obeyed the orders given to it to disperse, and though the formality of reading the Riot Act had been addressed to it in vain, had, nevertheless, committed no act of violence. The admirers of vigorous measures, on the other hand, who look to the end rather than the means, will continue to praise Governor Eyre for the energy with which he has nipped a revolution in the bud; and no one will ever know whether, in the absence of the bud-nipping process, a revolution would or would not have burst forth.

There is one part of this sad business, however, as to which it seems to us only too easy to form an opinion. We allude to the measures taken to repress the rising, or the intention to rise, in various parts of the island where no actual fighting had taken place. Colonel Hobbs is described by Governor Eyre in simple but alliterative and emphatic language, imitated (unconsciously, no doubt) from Caesar, as having "seen and shot" a great many rebels. With Caesar to see was to conquer. With Colonel Hobbs to see was to shoot; but there was really no conquering in the matter, for there was no resistance. The expeditions made by our officers and soldiers into the country districts around Morant Bay were simply battues of black men. The English in the days of the Peninsular War were said to "like a good butcher's bill;" and the "butcher's bill" sent home by General Eyre is certainly a fine one. The slaughter, however, is all on one side; and, after praise has been bestowed on the noble bearing of the British troops in their difficult marching and countermarching through fields of mud, we are coolly told that there are no casualties to report! The military portion of Governor Eyre's report reminds us forcibly of the bulletins that used to be published by the Russian Generals during the late insurrection in Poland, and which, for the most part, said either very little for the truthfulness or very little for the humanity of the conquerors. We now understand, from what our own soldiers have done in Jamaica, that when well-armed regular troops are opposed to an undisciplined rabble, the loss of life may be very great indeed on the weaker side without the stronger suffering in the least. We should have thought, however, in our civilian ignorance, that in such cases as these it would have been the duty of brave men not to kill, but to make prisoners.

Another case in which the authorities of the island have

clearly behaved with injustice is that of Mr. Gordon, who, on surrendering at Kingston, where martial law had not been proclaimed, was put on board a ship and taken round to Morant Bay, where the state of siege existed, to be tried and summarily convicted by a military court. On what evidence the conviction was pronounced has not yet been made known; but, however conclusive it may have been, it should have been brought forward in a civil court. Mr. Gordon may have been justly hanged; but the manner in which he was treated beforehand looks very much as though there had been a pre-determination to put him to death. We may be judging Governor Eyre and his officers too hastily and on imperfect testimony; but his own testimony, as far as it goes, certainly tells against him.

VIEWS IN JAMAICA.

THE Island of Jamaica, one of the Greater Antilles, and the most important possession of the British in the West Indies, extends from 76 deg. 15 min. to 78 deg. 25 min. W. long., and from 17 deg. 40 min. to 18 deg. 30 min. N. lat. Its length from east to west is nearly 150 miles, and its width may on an average be forty miles. It contains, according to Mr. Robertson's survey, 2,724,262 acres, or 4256 square miles. Only 1,100,000 acres are stated to be under cultivation.

The surface of this island is very uneven, and the tracts which are level probably occupy less than one twentieth of its area, but it is only the eastern part that can properly be called mountainous. This part is almost entirely filled up by the Blue Mountains, whose principal ridge occupies the middle of it, and runs nearly east and west. This range varies from 5000 to 6000 feet in elevation; its summit is in some places so narrow as not to be more than three or four yards across. Its numerous offsets run south and south-east, or north and north-west. On one of the latter offsets rise three peaks, of which the most northern and the highest attains an elevation of 7150 ft. above the sea. The western boundary of this mountain region is formed by a ridge, running across the whole island from south-east to north-west. This ridge begins on the south at Yallah Point, and terminates to the north-east of the mouth of the Agua Alta, or Wagwater River. It rises to a considerable height, frequently to 2500 ft. and 3000 ft.; and St. Catherine's Peak, at the point where it is united to the range of the Blue Mountains, is 4500 ft. above the sea-level. The declivities of the mountains are rather steep, partly bare and partly covered with woods, but the level summits are generally overgrown with trees. The valleys are mostly narrow, and contain but little level ground, with the exception of the vale of Bath, which extends about eight miles from the town of that name to the mouth of the Plantain Garden River, near the Promontory of Morant Point, the most eastern cape of the island. This vale is about one mile and a half wide, and covered with sugar plantations.

The island of Jamaica is divided politically into three counties, Cornwall, Middlesex, and Surrey, of which the last and smallest lies to the east. On the southern coast of this county, some thirty or forty miles from its easternmost point, lies Morant Town, the scene of the late negro outbreak, and a line carried up from Morant Town directly northwards would strike a town on the northern coast called Port Antonio. Kingston lies about fifty miles to the west of Morant Town, on the borders of Middlesex, and the Blue Mountains, running from west to east throughout the county, divide it into two equal parts. The entire population of the island is, or was in 1862, according to the returns of the Colonial Office, about 377,000, of whom only some 50,000 were white or mixed. The rest were all blacks, so that the negroes outnumbered the remainder of the inhabitants by seven to one.

Kingston, the present capital of the island, is a considerable city, and was once a place of great trade. It is regularly built, and contains good houses, some churches, and several charitable institutions and schools. The harbour is protected by the narrow slip of land on whose western extremity Port Royal is built. The greatest part of the produce of the southern districts is sent to Kingston, and is thence exported to Europe or America. This trade, however, is not nearly so great as it once was, the productiveness of the island having declined enormously since the emancipation of the slaves and the abolition of the sugar monopoly. Port Royal, once the capital, has been repeatedly destroyed by earthquakes, hurricanes, and fire, but is still a considerable place, as its harbour is the station for the ships of war, and it contains the naval arsenal and good fortifications. Morant Bay used to carry on a considerable trade, and was a thriving place. Port Antonio, though possessed of a good harbour, never enjoyed a large trade. "Fuit illi et ingens gloria." This may certainly be said of Port Antonio and the surrounding district. It was once a military station, and the empty barracks, standing so beautifully over the sea on an extreme point of land, are now waiting till time shall reduce them to ruin. The place is utterly desolate, though not yet broken up in its desolation, as such buildings quickly become when left wholly untenanted. A rusty cannon or two still stand at the embrasures watching the entrance to the fort; and among the grass are found a few metal balls, the last remains of the ordnance supplies. But Port Antonio was once a goodly town, and the country round it (the parish of Portland) is as fertile as any in the island. It is given up to the growth of yams, coconuts, and plantains. It has become a provision-ground for negroes, and the palmy days of the town are, of course, gone.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

There is little news from Paris. The Court is still at Compiègne, where the usual gaieties are going forward.

An explanatory note has been published in which it is officially stated that the effective reduction of the army amounts in all to 10,396 men, and that the ultimate economy thus obtained for the Budget of 1867 will be 124 million francs.

Marshal Randon, Minister of War, has addressed a report to the Emperor proposing to him that 3,500,000 fr. of the war budget for 1866 should be applied to raise the pay of officers, lieutenants, and sub-lieutenants. The Government have issued orders to reduce the Mediterranean squadron by four iron-clad vessels. It has also been determined, as a measure of economy, not to call out 1200 naval conscripts who were intended to reinforce the fleet.

SPAIN.

The Queen, who had been indisposed at La Granja, is reported to have quite recovered.

The Progressists Committee have adopted a resolution to continue the policy of abstention. General Prim spoke against this resolution. It is asserted that the presidency of the Senate will be offered by the Government to General Espartero.

The Treasury announces that the payment of the interest on the public debt will commence on the 2nd of January next.

ITALY.

King Victor Emmanuel on Saturday opened in person the Session of the new Parliament in Florence. He spoke with great confidence of the future of the kingdom of Italy. Time and the force of events, he said, would solve the question between Italy and the Papacy. The relations between Italy and foreign Powers were satisfactory, and the Italian kingdom had been recognised by Spain, Bavaria, and Saxony. The Ministry would bring in bills for the assimilation of the laws in the different parts of the kingdom and for improving the public credit. Fresh sacrifices would be necessary to restore the financial equilibrium; but his Majesty expressed his assurance that the patriotism of the people would not be found wanting. His Majesty continued:—"You will discuss

the separation of Church and State and the suppression of religious bodies. Nothing will destroy the national work. If fresh combats shall prove inevitable, all Italians will rally round me. Should the force based on progress and civilisation prevail, the wisdom of the nation will know how to profit by it."

AUSTRIA.

A considerable number of members of the Diet of the province of Lower Austria held a private conference on the 22nd inst., at which a resolution was prepared relative to the attitude to be observed by the deputies upon the September Patent.

It is asserted in Parliamentary circles that the September Patent will be officially communicated to the various provincial Diets, and that resolutions similar to that drawn up in Lower Austria respecting the line of conduct to be pursued in this matter will be prepared in Vienna, Linz, Salzburg, Graz, Briinn, Prague, and Troppau.

A proclamation of the Governor was published at Lemberg on the 20th, announcing that the Emperor had ordered the release of all political prisoners arrested by the Galician authorities from the year 1863 to the present time. All pending trials have been stopped, and general satisfaction is expressed at this act of clemency.

The Transylvanian Diet was opened on Monday by the Government Commissioner, who read an Imperial rescript calling upon the Assembly to maturely consider the best means to be adopted for the final settlement of the political situation of Transylvania. In their deliberations on this effect the Diet is exhorted to keep in view the interest of both Transylvania and Hungary as properly understood by the intimate connection of the former with the Hungarian Crown. The sole and exclusive subject for discussion which has been laid before the Diet is the revision of art. I of the law passed by the Transylvanian Diet of 1848, relative to the union of Hungary and Transylvania.

The National Croatian party have resolved to propose the union of Croatia, Hungary, and Slavonia, and to recognise the principle of a common legislation. They further recommend that negotiations for carrying out this policy should be entered into with a deputation from the Hungarian Diet.

GERMANY.

The Diet at Frankfurt has been essaying to discuss the question of the duchies, and has referred the subjects raised by the Middle States to the Holstein Committee. This has been done on the demand of Austria and Prussia. Those Powers announced that they should summon the Estates of the duchies, but only when they thought proper; and, further, they declined to say whether Schleswig shall be incorporated with the German Confederation. Bavaria, Saxony, and Hesse Darmstadt thereupon declined to trouble the Diet with more discussions on the matter.

GREECE.

There has been another Ministerial crisis at Athens. M. Bulgariu had scarcely succeeded in getting together a Cabinet when he tendered his resignation, on account of the King refusing, at his request, to dissolve the Chamber. In consequence of the resignation of the Bulgarian Ministry, M. Comondouros has assumed the presidency of the Council, also discharging the functions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and the Interior. He has presented the following list of the remaining members of the Cabinet to the King:—M. Sotiropoulos, Minister of Finance; M. Lazaretos, War and Marine; M. Lombardo, Public Instruction; M. Petraki, Justice.

POLAND.

An Imperial ukase has been sent to the Governor of Warsaw for promulgation, by which the term of military service in Poland is reduced to ten years, six of which are to be served in the line and four in the reserve.

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.

The central committee of all the Schleswig-Holstein political associations has been dissolved by order of the Government, and all future meeting prohibited, under penalty of a fine.

DENMARK.

In Tuesday's sitting of the Rigsdag the President of the Council, Count Frys Frysberg, presented the draught of the bill for the revision of the Constitution as agreed to by the Rigsaad. The Minister stated that the Government expected the Rigsdag to adopt or reject the bill in its integrity without modification.

Dagbladet publishes a leading article on the new Ministry, in which it says:—"The principal mission of the new Ministry must be to bring about the restoration of the Danish portion of Schleswig to Denmark, and to induce friendly Powers to take positive steps towards attaining this object."

THE UNITED STATES.

Our advices from New York are to the 11th instant. Several cases of cholera had occurred on board the steamer Atlanta, and she was detained in quarantine. The epidemic was confined to the steerage. The passengers had issued a protest declaring that the epidemic prevailing was not cholera.

President Johnson had approved the finding of the court as to Captain Wirtz, and that individual was hanged on Nov. 10.

A deputation of Baltimore ladies had an interview with President Johnson, and asked the Executive clemency for Mr. Davis. The President replied that he regretted the national character of the question restrained all private sympathy which they might have awakened in him, and he stated that arrangements were concluded for the early legal trial of Mr. Davis. The Georgia Convention and the Mississippi Legislature had petitioned the President to pardon Mr. Davis.

The provisional Governor of Georgia had submitted to the State Convention documents advising the State to claim the cotton seized by Sherman and subsequently confiscated by the Federal Government. The Convention had repudiated the Confederate debt.

There was a Republican Government and a Republican majority in the Legislature of New Jersey, thus ensuring the ratification of the Constitutional Amendment by that State. The Republican State ticket had been elected in New York, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

Outlawry conflicts between the whites and the negroes continued in Mississippi.

Orders had been forwarded at New Orleans to muster out all the coloured regiments that can be spared.

WEST INDIES.

Advices from Jamaica to the 28th ult. state that the "rebellion" was utterly crushed, and that Paul Bogle had been tried and sentenced to death. "The proceedings," says the telegram, "appeared to be very summary, and a large number of rebels had suffered death." A schooner laden with gunpowder, under the command of the Haytian rebel General Lamothe, had been captured. The telegram says it is supposed he was about to take command of the Jamaica insurgents. A letter from Kingston, however, dated Oct. 21, notices the sailing of this vessel, with 200 kegs of gunpowder on board, the day before the Jamaica outbreak, and the writer adds that he supposes Lamothe intended to assist the rebels in Hayti. Another piece of news is that the Haytian rebels at Port-au-Prince insulted the British Consul there; whereupon H.M.S. Bulldog bombarded Port-au-Prince. The Bulldog, however, got aground, and had to be blown up, her officers and crew being saved on board a Haytian vessel of war.

DR. LIVINGSTONE'S NEW WORK ON AFRICA.—Dr. Livingstone's new volume, written in conjunction with Charles Livingstone, entitled "The Zambesi and its Tributaries," has been issued by Mr. Murray. It is dedicated to Lord Palmerston, "as a tribute justly due to the great statesman who has ever had at heart the amelioration of the African race; and as a token of admiration of the beneficial effects of that policy which he has so long laboured to establish on the West Coast of Africa; and which, in improving that region, has most forcibly shown the need of some similar system on the opposite side of the Continent." The object of the work is to give an account of tracts of country previously unexplored, with their river systems, natural productions and capabilities; and to bring before all interested in the cause of humanity, the misery entailed by the slave trade in its inland phases; "a subject," says Dr. Livingstone, "on which I and my companions are the first who have had any opportunity of forming a judgment."

THE INSURRECTION IN JAMAICA.

DESPATCH FROM GOVERNOR EYRE.

A DESPATCH from Governor Eyre, of Jamaica, has been received at the Colonial Office, and published in the *Gazette*, with an authoritative account of the outbreak at Morant Town. The following is the substance of Governor Eyre's narrative:—

Early in the morning of Wednesday, the 11th of October, a letter reached the Governor, who was then at Spanish Town, informing him that disturbances were apprehended in the neighbourhood of Morant Bay, and requesting that troops might be sent. It stated that on the previous Saturday a black had been rescued from the custody of the police, and that when the constables proceeded on Tuesday to arrest the principal persons concerned in the disturbance, they were themselves captured by a mob of negroes assembled at Stony Gut, armed with guns, cutlasses, bayonets, and pikes, who handcuffed them, and compelled them to take an oath binding them to desert the whites. Calling the Executive Council together, the Governor requested General O'Connor to get a hundred men ready for immediate embarkation, and desired Captain De Horsey to convey the soldiers in the Wolverine to Morant Bay. Before dark they were all on board, and the ship was under way, whilst the Governor returned to his house in the mountains. At half-past four in the afternoon of Thursday, however, another letter arrived, reporting that the negroes had risen, had massacred the whites, and were now supposed to be upon the march along the line of the Blue Mountain Valley. Hastily writing a note to the General, applying for 200 more troops, Governor Eyre mounted his horse and set off towards Kingston. As he rode down the mountain he met another messenger bearing the same bad news; and when he reached the city he found ample corroboration of its truth. But he learned, also, that General O'Connor had not been idle, and that a hundred soldiers were already on board the Onyx gun-boat, prepared to sail at daybreak. So far so good; it remained to dispatch a force sufficient to check the rebels, supposing that they were really advancing along the valley. By midnight the order was sent to Newcastle, with a letter to Jackson, an old Indian officer, requesting him to join the troops; and at three o'clock in the morning the company was on its march. Meanwhile, Eyre was at O'Connor's house, and had sent messengers to every member of the Executive Council. Before midnight on that busy day they had assembled, and notices were forwarded to the members of Privy Council and of the Assembly to meet at eight o'clock. As a British official, duly impressed with the value of law and precedent, Governor Eyre does not forget to inform us that this was "the legal formality required by the 9th Vict., cap. 35, sects. 95, 6, 7, 8." The insurrection had broken out; the rebels were supposed to be advancing; at any moment the sound of the negro drums might be heard in the streets of Kingston itself; but these were not sufficient reasons for disregarding the ordinary etiquette of Governmental routine, or forgetting "the 9th Vict., cap. 35." Due honour having been paid to the Act of Parliament, Eyre chartered the French steamer Caravelle as a transport; and then, driving over to Spanish Town, roused up the Governor's secretary and his clerk, and dictated the necessary proclamations for the establishment of martial law. Thus the night passed; by half-past six on Friday the documents were ready; at eight the Governor was again in Kingston, and the proclamations were published. Who was the best man for commanding in the disturbed districts? O'Connor named Colonel Nelson—a good name to begin with; that officer was forthwith dubbed "Brigadier-General," to give him seniority; fifty additional troops were sent to the French ship the Caravelle; and by ten o'clock the indefatigable Eyre was himself on board, steaming down the harbour. On his way he met the Wolverine, bringing the fugitives from Morant Bay, and he heard the whole of the story which we told on Saturday, accompanied by detailed accounts of the atrocity, which we shrank from accepting as authentic until they were stated on authority. Horrible as they are, we recapitulate them here, that all may judge whether the perpetrators of such deeds were entitled to much indulgence. Let Englishmen be again reminded, then, how the brave clergyman, Mr. Herschel, had his tongue cut out whilst still alive; how Mr. Charles Price was ripped open, and his entrails taken out; how Lieutenant Hall was roasted alive; how the Baron von Ketelbold's fingers were cut off and carried away as trophies; how others had their eyes scooped from the sockets. Hearing this news, with what feelings one can readily imagine, Eyre sent word back to Kingston by the Wolverine, asking for still more troops, and by seven o'clock that evening he had stepped ashore at Morant Bay. The necessary orders having been given, he went on board the gun-boat Onyx, in company with General Nelson. And arrived a little after midnight at Port Morant. All was going on well; but, although he had been either in the saddle, at the council-chamber, or on board ship since four o'clock on Thursday afternoon, there was still no time for rest. Rebels were known to be lurking in the neighbourhood; and at two in the morning he sent forth a party, who surprised two men and some women in the negro huts. The women were released; the elder rebel, who had been prominent during the massacre, was tried by court-martial and hanged; and the younger one was soundly flogged. At daybreak on Saturday Eyre gave marching orders to all the troops available, and then steamed back to Morant Bay, which he reached at nine o'clock. By this time the rain was lashing down in a true West Indian torrent, and the encampment was flooded. There was work to be done fit for such a day; for ere long the Wolverine hove in sight, and, besides a company of the 6th Regiment, a number of prisoners were landed. Five were tried. One of them was only flogged; the other four were strung up to the stone archway of the burnt Court-house. Eyre then set off at four in the afternoon to Port Morant, where he found that a hundred refugees had been taken on board a gun-boat, many of whom had been lying concealed for days and nights in the canebrakes and the woods. At daylight on the 15th (Sunday) he started in the Wolverine for Port Antonio, and reached that settlement just in time to save it from the rebels, who were burning buildings and destroying property about twelve miles to the eastward. An American captain, Tracey by name, had given shelter to many of the inhabitants, with the same kindly readiness that marked the conduct of the Frenchman Bruat in placing the Caravelle at the disposal of Government. Special constables had been sworn in; the Maroons had come down from Moore Town, and only needed arms and a leader; so that Eyre reviewed them, and placed them under the command of their old Captain, the Honourable A. G. Fyfe. Throughout the affair, indeed, these Maroons were stanchly loyal; and their fidelity, says Eyre, "is of incalculable value to the Government in the emergency which exists." The position of affairs by this time, however, was thoroughly satisfactory; he had got ahead of the rebellion; and, with a military post at San Antonio, another at Morant Bay, and the friendly Maroons stationed along the line connecting the two, he had fairly hemmed the rebels within the country to the eastward. But at daybreak on Monday Eyre was again at work; after a court-martial seven-and-twenty rioters were hanged; and the indefatigable leader hastened back to meet those who were asking him to proclaim martial law in Kingston itself.

There had, however, been no supineness during his absence. General O'Connor had sent out expeditionary columns into the undisturbed districts as a precautionary measure. He had called out the pensioners, and the townsmen had readily come forward as volunteers. On the whole, Eyre determined that martial law was not necessary in Kingston, and he then took a resolute and decided step, which is, perhaps, best described in his own words:—

There was one very important point to be decided upon. Throughout my tour in the Wolverine and Onyx I found everywhere the most unmistakable evidence that Mr. George William Gordon, a coloured member of the House of Assembly, had not only been mixed up in the matter, but was himself, through his own misrepresentations and seditious language addressed to the ignorant black people, the chief cause and origin of the whole rebellion. Mr. Gordon was now in Kingston, and it became necessary to decide what action should be taken with regard to him. Having obtained a deputation on oath that certain seditious printed notices had been sent through the post office directed in his handwriting to the parties who have been leaders in the rebellion, I at once called upon the Custos to

issue a warrant and capture him. For some little time he managed to evade capture; but, finding that sooner or later it was inevitable, he proceeded to the house of General O'Connor and there gave himself up. I at once had him placed on board the Wolverine for safe custody and conveyance to Morant Bay. Great difference of opinion prevailed in Kingston as to the policy of taking Mr. Gordon. Nearly all coincided in believing him to be the occasion of the rebellion, and that he ought to be taken; but many of the inhabitants were under considerable apprehension that his capture might lead to an immediate outbreak in Kingston itself. I did not share in this feeling. Moreover, considering it right in the abstract, and desirable as a matter of policy, that while the poor black men who had been misled were undergoing condign punishment, the chief instigator of all the evil should not go unpunished, I at once took upon myself the responsibility of his capture. Having placed Mr. Gordon on board the Wolverine, and having obtained a supply of arms and ammunition from General O'Connor, for the use of the Maroons and others, I at once set off again in the Wolverine, about noon of Oct. 17, on my return to Morant Bay.

Mr. Gordon was landed at Morant, was subsequently tried by court-martial, convicted, and hanged, along with other prisoners, on the remaining beams of the porch of the Court-house where the negro outbreak took place. Paul Bogle was brought in by the Maroons at noon on the 24th ult., and at once tried by court-martial and condemned to be hanged, in company with Moses Bogle, M'Laren, and all the other captured leaders (eighteen in number), the same evening.

In regard to the causes of the rebellion, Governor Eyre says:—

I cannot myself doubt that it is in a great degree due to Dr. Underhill's letter and the meetings held in connection with that letter, where the people were told that they were tyrannised over and ill-treated, were over-taxed, were denied political rights, had no just tribunals, were misrepresented to her Majesty's Government by the authorities and by the planters, and where, in fact, language of the most exciting and seditious kind was constantly used, and the people told plainly to right themselves, to be up and doing, to put their shoulders to the wheel, to do as the Haytiens had done, and other similar advice. The parties who have more immediately taken part in these nefarious proceedings are:—firstly, G. W. Gordon, a member of the Assembly and a Baptist preacher; secondly, several black persons, chiefly of the Baptist persuasion, connected with him; thirdly, various political demagogues and agitators, who, having no character or property to lose, make a trade of exciting the ignorant people; fourthly, a few persons of better information and education, who find their interest in acquiring an influence among the black people by professing to advise them, while in reality they are but exciting and stimulating their evil passions; fifthly, a few Baptist missionaries, who like to indorse at public meetings or otherwise all the untruthful statements or innuendoes propagated in Dr. Underhill's letter; and, lastly, a section of the press, which, like the *Watchman* and the *County Union*, is always disseminating seditious doctrines, and endeavouring to bring into contempt the representative of the Sovereign and all constituted authority. While it is my duty to point out how mischievous has been the influence of a few of the Baptist ministers, and of various members of that persuasion, it is equally my duty and a pleasure to me to state that I believe the large majority of the Baptist ministers have been most anxious to support the authorities, to teach their people to be loyal and industrious, and to indorse the advice given to the peasantry by her Most Gracious Majesty.

DR. UNDERHILL'S LETTER.

The letter of Dr. Underhill, to which Governor Eyre refers, was addressed to Mr. Cardwell in January last, was by him sent out to the Governor of Jamaica, who published it in the local newspapers, and invited the residents to furnish information on which to found an answer to it. Dr. Underhill says that, if this letter has done mischief, Governor Eyre is responsible for it, as it was he, and not the writer, who made it public in the island. The letter is as follows:—

DR. UNDERHILL TO MR. CARDWELL.

33, Moorgate-street, E.C., Jan. 5, 1865.
Dear Sir,—I venture to ask your kind consideration to a few observations on the present condition of the island of Jamaica.

For several months past every mail has brought letters informing me of the continually increasing distress of the coloured population. As a sufficient illustration, I quote the following brief passage from one of them:—

"Crime has fearfully increased. The number of prisoners in the penitentiary and gaols is considerably more than double the average, and nearly all for one crime—larceny. Summonses for petty debts disclose an amount of pecuniary difficulty which has never before been experienced; and applications for parochial and private relief prove that multitudes are suffering from want little removed from starvation."

The immediate cause of this distress would seem to be the drought of the last two years; but, in fact, this has only given intensity to suffering previously existing. All accounts, both public and private, concur in affirming the alarming increase of crime, chiefly of larceny and petty theft. This arises from the extreme poverty of the people. That this is its true origin is made evident by the ragged and even naked condition of vast numbers of them, so contrary to the taste for dress they usually exhibit. They cannot purchase clothing, partly from its greatly-increased cost, which is unduly enhanced by the duty (said to be 38 per cent by the Hon. Mr. White Locke) which it now pays, and partly from the want of employment, and the consequent absence of wages.

The people, then, are starving, and the causes of this are not far to seek. No doubt the taxation of the island is too heavy for its present resources, and must necessarily render the cost of producing the staples higher than they can bear, to meet competition in the markets of the world. No doubt much of the sugar land of the island is worn out, or can only be made productive by an outlay which would destroy all hope of profitable return. No doubt, too, a large part of the island is uncultivated, and might be made to support a greater population than is now existing upon it.

But the simple fact is, there is not sufficient employment for the people; there is neither work for them nor capital to employ them.

The labouring class is too numerous for the work to be done. Sugar cultivation on the estates does not absorb more than 30,000 of the people, and every other species of cultivation (apart from provision growing) cannot give employment to more than another 30,000. But the agricultural population of the island is over 400,000, so that there are at least 340,000 whose livelihood depends on employment other than that devoted to the staple cultivation of the island. Of these 340,000 certainly not less than 130,000 are adults, and capable of labour. For subsistence they must be entirely dependent on the provisions grown on their little freeholds, a portion of which is sold to those who find employment on the estates, or, perhaps, in a slight degree, on such produce as they are able to raise for exportation. But those who grow produce for exportation are very few, and they meet with every kind of discouragement to prosecute the means of support which is as advantageous to the island as to themselves. If their provisions fail, as has been the case, from drought they must starve or starve. And this is their present condition. The same result follows in this country when employment ceases or wages fall. The great decrease of coin in circulation in Jamaica is a further proof that less money is spent in wages through the decline of employment. Were Jamaica prosperous, silver would flow into it, or its equivalent in English manufacture, instead of the exportation of silver, which now regularly takes place. And it, as stated in the Governor's speech, the customs' revenue in the year gone by has been equal to former years, this has arisen, not from an increase in the quantities imported, but from the increased value of the imports, the duty being levied at an ad valorem charge of 12½ per cent on articles such as cotton goods, which have within the last year or two greatly risen in price.

I shall say nothing of the course taken by the Jamaica Legislature; of their abortive immigration bills; of their unjust taxation of the coloured population; of their refusal of just tribunals; of their denial of political rights to the emancipated negroes. Could the people find remunerative employment, these evils would in time be remedied, from their growing strength and intelligence. The worst evil consequent on the proceedings of the Legislature is the distrust awakened in the minds of capitalists, and the avoidance of Jamaica, with its manifold advantages, by all who possess the means to benefit it by their expenditure.

Unless means can be found to encourage the outlay of capital in Jamaica in the growth of those numerous products which can be profitably exported, so that employment can be given to its starving people, I see no other result than the entire failure of the island and the destruction of the hopes that the Legislature and the people of Great Britain have cherished with regard to the wellbeing of its emancipated population.

With your kind permission, I will venture to make two or three suggestions, which, if carried out, may assist to avert so painful a result.

1. A searching inquiry into the legislation of the island since emancipation, its taxation, its economical and material condition, would go far to bring to light the causes of the existing evils, and, by convincing the ruling class of the mistakes of the past, lead to their removal. Such an inquiry seems also due to this country, that it may be seen whether the emancipated peasantry have gained those advantages which were sought to be secured to them by their enfranchisement.

2. The Governor might be instructed to encourage, by his personal approval and urgent recommendation, the growth of exportable produce by the people on the very numerous freeholds they possess. This might be done by the formation of associations for shipping their produce in considerable quantities; by equalising duties on the produce of the people and that of the planters; by instructing the native growers of produce in the best methods of cultivation, and pointing out the articles which would find a ready sale in the markets of the world; by opening channels for direct transmission of produce, without the intervention of agents, by whose extortions and frauds the people now frequently suffer, and are greatly discouraged. The cultivation of sugar by the peasantry should, in my judgment, be discouraged. At the best, with all the scientific appliances the planters can bring to it, both capital and machinery, sugar-manufacturing is a hazardous

thing. Much more must it become so in the hands of the people, with their rude mills and imperfect method. But the minor products of the island—such as spices, tobacco, farinaceous food, coffee, and cotton—are quite within their reach, and always fetch a fair and remunerative price, when not burdened by extravagant charges and local taxation.

3. With just laws and light taxation capitalists would be encouraged to settle in Jamaica, and employ themselves in the production of the more important staples, such as sugar, coffee, and cotton. Thus the people would be employed, and the present starvation rate of wages be improved.

In conclusion, I have to apologise for troubling you with this communication; but since my visit to the island in 1859-60 I have felt the gentlest interest in its prosperity, and deeply grieve over the sufferings of its coloured population. It is more than time that the unwisdom (to use the gentlest term) that has governed Jamaica since emancipation should be brought to an end; a course of action which, while it incalculably aggravates the misery arising from natural and therefore unavoidable causes, renders certain the ultimate ruin of every class—planter and peasant, European and creole.

Should you, dear Sir, desire such information as it may be in my power to furnish, or see me on the matter, I shall be most happy either to forward whatever facts I may possess or wait upon you at any time that you may appoint. I have, &c. EDWARD B. UNDERHILL.

P.S.—I append an extract from the speech of the Hon. H. A. White Locke in the House of Assembly with respect to the condition of the people:—

"He (Mr. White Locke) would make an assertion which could not be gainsaid by his successor, that taxation could not be extended; nor one farthing more could be imposed upon the people, who were suffering peculiar hardship from the increased value of wearing apparel, which was now taxed beyond all bounds. Actually they were paying 38 per cent now, when 12½ per cent was before considered an outrageous ad valorem duty. Cotton goods, including Osnaburgh and all the wearing apparel of the labouring classes, had increased 200 per cent in value. What was bought at 4d. per yard before was selling at 1s. per yard. Therefore the people are now paying 1½d. duty on every yard of cloth, instead of 4d., which has been justly described as a heavy impost. The consequence is that a disgusting state of nudity exhibited itself in some parts of the country. Hardly a boy under ten years of age wore a frock; and adults, from the ragged state of their garments, exhibited those parts of the body where covering was specially wanted. The lower classes hitherto exhibited a proneness for dress, and he could not believe such a change would have come over them but for his belief in their destitution, arising out of a reduction in their wages at a time when every article of apparel had risen in value. This year's decrease in imports foreshadowed what was coming. Sugar was down again at £11 per hoghead; coffee was falling; pimento was valueless; logwood was scarcely worth cutting; and, moreover, a sad diminution was effected in our chief staple exports from a deficiency of rain."

THE "CLEFT STICK," AT THE OLYMPIC.

ONE of the most amusing little comedies which we have recently borrowed from "our lively neighbours" is an adaptation of the Palais Royal piece of "Le Supplice d'un Homme," which has been produced at the Olympic under the title of "A Cleft Stick." The construction of French dramas, whether serious or comic, is as near perfection as we can hope to come. Our neighbours are masters of the art of "situation"—of managing surprises by apparently natural means—and of piling horrors or absurdities one upon the other until reality and probability are lost sight of, and the auditor yields himself up entirely to the dramatist. "A Cleft Stick" was noticed at full length in our theatrical column of last week. The fun of the piece hinges upon the terror of a married man, Mr. Carnaby Fix, who is haunted, and, as he believes, is persecuted, by a lady to whom he has offered some trifling civilities. This lady follows him to his country house at Ryde, and, at the moment that her presence is discovered by his wife and mother-in-law, a friend, one Mr. Tackleback, rescues him from the dilemma by proclaiming the mysterious lady in question to be his wife. The lady enters upon the scene, and Tackleback is astonished to find that she really is his wife, from whom he has been separated for three years. It is this situation which our Artist has chosen for illustration. The majestic mother-in-law is waiting for an explanation; the mysterious lady, Mrs. Tackleback, is claiming her husband; the husband, Mr. Tackleback, is rooted to the Brussels carpet with astonishment; while the innocent Mr. Fix and his wife stand in the background waiting patiently for the next event. The imbric of the comedy is admirably worked out; and, as it is excellently acted by Mrs. St. Henry, Miss Farren, Mrs. Beauchamp, and Mrs. Stevens, Mr. Frederick Young, and Mr. Horace Wigan, we can "confidently recommend it"—as the advertisements say—to the playgoer.

A NORMANDY WEDDING.

WE have frequently published illustrations and descriptions of some of those picturesque ceremonies which are still retained in Normandy, a country where traditional customs are held in great veneration, and where the artist as well as the traveller for pleasure may still count upon finding scenes worthy both of sketchbook and journal.

Our present Engraving represents that most interesting scene the *noce aux champs*, that gay wedding excursion which is still preserved amongst the peasantry, and is one of the most pleasant spectacles upon which one can come amidst the overhanging woods on a summer's day. It is, in fact, a kind of rustic drama, in which all the actors are in earnest, the dresses and the rural scenery being altogether as real as the happy couple and the congratulatory crowd of neighbours.

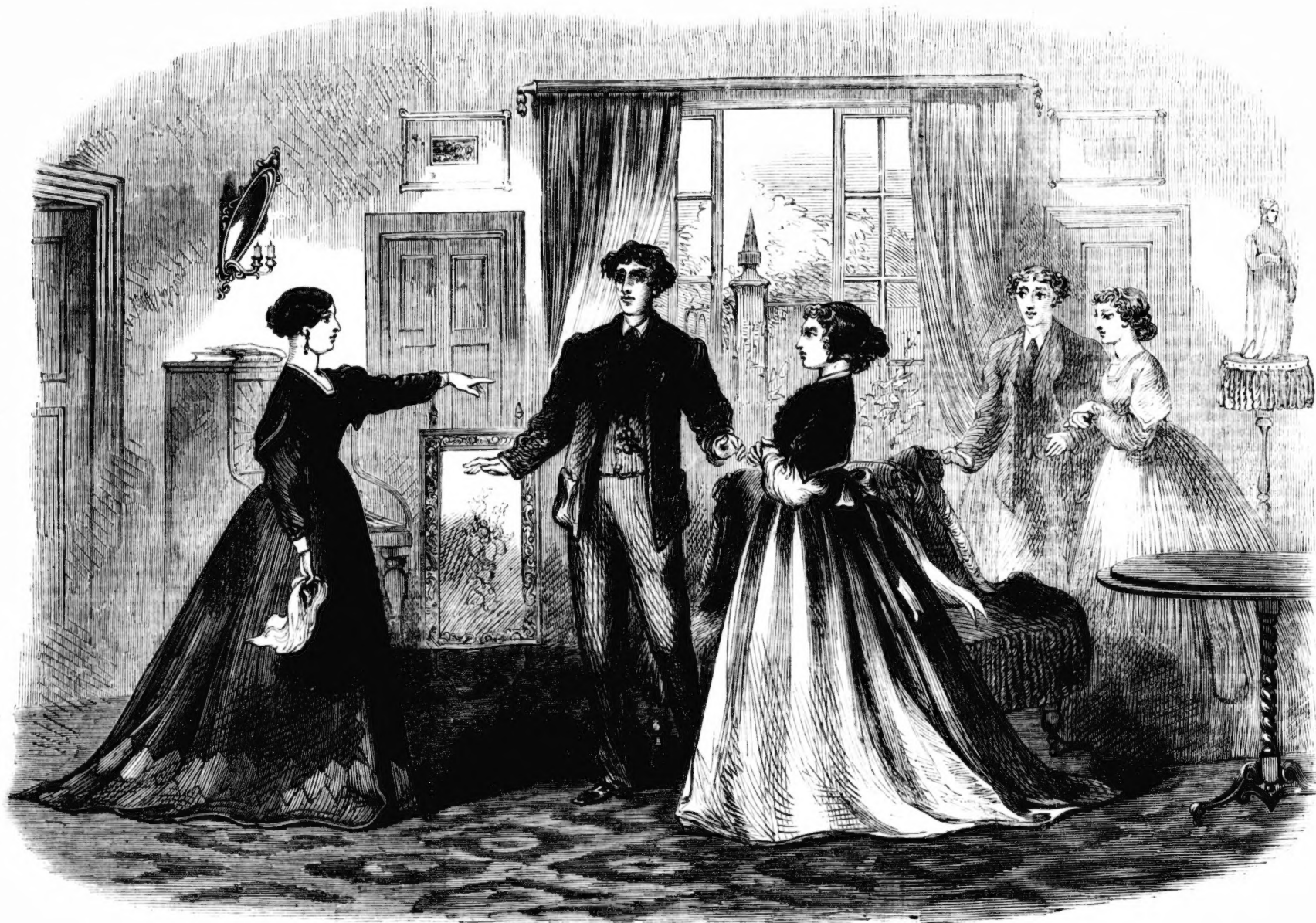
The celebration of the religious ceremonial is generally appointed for a Tuesday in the gala week. On this occasion the guests assemble and present the wedding gifts; the ribbon favours are distributed to those who are invited and are fastened to the breast in the good old fashion; the wedding-ring is produced, and the feast is prepared and discussed. As, however, the bride and bridegroom are generally natives of different villages, and the families and friends of each all expect to be present on the occasion, the wedding itself is usually preceded and followed by a glorious excursion, mostly made on horseback, in that primitive fashion by which each cavalier has a fair companion under his protection on the pillion behind him. It is a wonderful combination of life and colour. The bright hues of the dresses, the trappings of the steeds, the bouquets, the favours, and those marvellous caps which are distinctive and hereditary in every district of Normandy, making a picture never to be forgotten by anyone who has witnessed it. As the joyous cavalcade approach any hamlet which lies on their road they are saluted by a complete fusillade of firearms, and, as they come nearer, they discover that their progress is arrested by a long ribbon stretched across the one main street held by two young girls on the other side of this ethereal barricade. The whole of the friendly villagers are assembled, including the firing party; and as they welcome the loving pair a magnificent bouquet of flowers, fresh with the morning dew, is presented to the bride, who accepts the offering, at the same time touching with her lips the glass of wine which accompanies it.

Then come such a clinking of glasses, hand-shaking, and toast-proposing as it does one's heart good to witness, while the wedding favours are sewn on; and, this accomplished, the cavalcade starts afresh, each couple endeavouring to take the lead, so that the whole party at last breaks into a gallop, and the gallop becomes a race.

The reason for this may lie in the anxiety of the guests to reach the house of the happy pair, where a homely feast is provided for them, the profusion of which makes up for its plain character. It consists generally of vast mounds of meat, numerous fowls, piles of fruit, and mighty loaves, flanked by great jugs of the cider which is the national beverage. Of all these good things, after the wedding party has done ample justice, the reversion is enjoyed by the beggars who, scenting the cheer afar off, hang about the kitchen or the homestead during the whole time of the banquet.

WILD BOARS are very abundant this year in the forests of the department of the Côte-d'Or. A party of sportsmen from Dijon recently killed four in the woods of Athée.

AN UNSEASONABLE JOKE.—A singular incident has just occurred at Breslau, on the occasion of the funeral of a student named Attoz, who had been killed in a duel. The coffin had been let down into the grave, when a voice was heard, apparently proceeding from the interior of it, exclaiming, "Let me out, I am being suffocated." The coffin was immediately brought up and opened, but the body was found to be quite dead. The author of the hoax was then discovered to be a ventriloquist present, who was arrested for disturbing a religious service.



SCENE FROM THE "CLEFT STICK," AT THE OLYMPIC THEATRE.

THOMAS CARLYLE.

MR. CARLYLE, the world-famous essayist, biographer, and historian, who has just been elected Lord Rector of Edinburgh University in preference to Mr. Disraeli, was born in 1795, at Ecclefechan, a small village in Dumfriesshire, where his father, a man

of intellect and earnest religious feeling, held a small farm. He received the rudiments of his education at Annan. At the age of fourteen he entered the University of Edinburgh, passing through a regular curriculum, and studying mathematics under Professor Leslie. He was originally intended by his parents for

the ministry, and remained at the University upwards of seven years, spending his vacations among the hills and by the rivers of Dumfriesshire. At college his habits were lonely and contemplative. After teaching mathematics in a school in Fifeshire for about two years, he determined to devote himself to literature, as the most



A WEDDING IN NORMANDY: THE JOURNEY HOME.

powerful profession of the age, and, in 1823, commenced his career by contributing some able articles to Brewster's "Edinburgh Encyclopedia," on "Montesquieu," "Montaigne," "Nelson," and the "Two Pitts." He also furnished literary notices to the *New Edinburgh Review*. In the same year he completed a translation of Legendre's "Geometry," to which he prefixed an "Essay on Proportion," and also published his translation of Goethe's "Wilhelm Meister," a work which betrayed a direction of reading destined to influence materially his future career. On the completion of this translation he commenced his "Life of Schiller," which was published by instalments in the *London Magazine*, then sustained by the talents of Lamb, Hazlitt, De Quincey, Hood, John Scott, and A. Cunningham. For Goethe and Schiller, two of the "true sovereign souls of German literature," his admiration has ever been unbounded, and his letters to Goethe have appeared in the poet's published correspondence. Having married in 1827, he took up his residence alternately at Comley Bank and Craigenputtock, an estate fifteen miles to the north-west of Dumfries. From this secluded spot he occasionally contributed to the foreign and other reviews of the day. Between 1830 and 1833 he was engaged in writing his famous "Sartor Resartus," which first appeared in the latter year in *Fraser's Magazine*. During the negotiations for the publication of this work he was induced to remove to London, where he has continued to reside, we believe, since 1834. In 1837 he published "The French Revolution," a history abounding in vivid and graphic descriptions. Two years afterwards appeared his "Chartism," and about the same time five volumes of his "Essays," collected for the most part from periodical publications. In 1840 he delivered a series of lectures on hero-worship, which were afterwards published in a collected form. His "Past and Present" was published in 1843. In 1850 appeared his "Latter-day Pamphlets," essays suggested by the convulsions of 1848—an era which he describes as "one of the most singular, disastrous, amazing, and, on the whole, humiliating years the European world ever saw." His "Life of John Sterling" has been described as "one of the finest biographies ever written." In 1845 Mr. Carlyle produced his great work, entitled "Oliver Cromwell's Letters and Speeches, with Elucidations," which immediately gave him a distinguished place among the historians of the age. On the death of the Earl of Ellesmere, in 1857, Mr. Carlyle was appointed a trustee of the National Portrait Gallery. In 1860-4 he published his "Life of Frederick the Great," in four volumes, 8vo. "Mr. Carlyle's characteristic," says one of his admirers, "is a rugged earnestness of expression, and a range of thought widened and deepened by his acquaintance with the writings of the great German thinkers."

VALPARAISO.

VALPARAISO, the principal port of Chili, which the blockade instituted by a Spanish fleet has just brought prominently into notice, is situated in 71 deg. 45 min. W. long, and 33 deg. 2 min. S. lat. It is fifty-five miles south of Santiago and 225 north of Concepcion. The town has been nearly rebuilt since



THOMAS CARLYLE, THE NEW LORD RECTOR OF EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.
(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY J. AND C. WATKINS.)

the great earthquake in 1822. It consists of "a long, narrow street, built, like Hastings, under the cliff, and it follows the sinuosities of the shore close to the seaside." (Hon. P. C. Scarlett's "South America.") The houses have all stories above the ground floor, and they are not flat-roofed. Painted piazzas are substituted for balconies almost at every house, and their different colours give the town a gay appearance. The new custom-house and several of the new churches and other public buildings are handsome edifices. The exchange was built at the expense of the foreign merchants, and is provided by them with fire-engines for the service of the town. The Protestants have a cemetery

and a place of worship, where the service of the Church of England is performed. Trade is in the hands of the English, Americans, and French; and a handsome suburb, on the heights above Valparaiso, is almost exclusively inhabited by them. Valparaiso has become a port of great importance since the independence of Chili. There are extensive bonding warehouses, in which goods are deposited to the amount of many million dollars annually. Besides the ships engaged in the import and export trade of Chili, Valparaiso is a most convenient port for vessels from the eastern coast of Asia, the islands of the Pacific, the western coast of North America; and they may be provisioned without even coming to anchor. The roadstead is good in a southerly and easterly wind, but is exposed to the northward.

The *Paris Opinion Nationale* publishes a letter, purporting to be from one of the leading merchants of Valparaiso, dated Oct. 5, and brought by an extra steamer. It states that, if the French and English Governments do not speedily interfere, the European commercial establishments in that city will be utterly ruined. The writer implores his correspondent in Paris to use all his influence so that remonstrances should be made at Madrid by the Governments interested in defending the rights of their countrymen. The writer states that the foreign trade with Chili amounts to 80,000,000 piasters (£16,000,000); that the explanations demanded by M. Tavora, the Spanish Minister, had lasted nearly a year, to the great detriment of trade; and that they were fortunately concluded in May last. "Confiding in the treaty, merchants had undertaken large contracts; but everything was thrown into confusion by the proceedings of Admiral Pareja. The inhabitants of Valparaiso are convinced that Spain has designs against the independence of the whole of the South American States. How otherwise can the force sent against Peru and Chili be accounted for? It cannot be to defend her trade, for her commercial transactions with Chili do not amount to more than 250,000 piasters annually. He observes further that the greater part of the trade of Valparaiso is in the hands of foreign residents—English, French, German, or Belgian. Their free stores, which supply the whole of the Pacific, contain merchandise to the value of from £6,000,000 to £7,000,000, all foreign produce. The entire transit trade is in the hands of foreigners, and all the merchandise in Chili is foreign. The Chilians have their mercantile establishments at Santiago, Taica, Concepcion, and other towns in the interior; but they have comparatively few on the coast, where there are only French, English, Germans, and Belgians. It is against

foreign commerce that Admiral Pareja is waging war, foreigners only possessing ships on the coast. He dictates the conditions of an effective blockade on paper, which he is the first to violate in favour of one party or another, according to his will or pleasure. And yet Chili never had any difference with Admiral Pareja. The Chilean Government knew nobody but Salvador Tavora, the Spanish Minister Plenipotentiary, who had full powers from his Government to negotiate, and who on several occasions fully accepted the complete and honourable explanations given by the Minister of Foreign Affairs." In conclusion, the writer says that the Chilean Government cannot make concessions after the brutal treatment it has met with.

SPAIN AND CHILI.

(From the Times.)

THE most innocent, most active, and most prosperous of South American Republics has suddenly found its prosperity destroyed, its intercourse with the rest of the world suspended, and its national existence endangered by the arbitrary conduct of a Spanish Admiral, acting under the orders of the Spanish Government. For more than fifty years Chili has, with rare and slight interruptions, pursued a path of peaceful development; its population has greatly increased, so that it is from three to four times more dense than that of any other country of South America; its internal resources have multiplied, and its honour has been unstained. The inhabitants of the narrow strip between the Andes and the Pacific, blest with a comparatively temperate climate and receiving but little admixture of Indian blood, have preserved the virtues of Spaniards in the best days of Spanish history. The statesmen of the Republic have shown a self-denying patriotism unknown in the neighbouring States, and on the two or three occasions when public order seemed in danger it has been promptly re-established without any sacrifice of the liberties of the people. The national debt is small, and the greater part of it was contracted for the honourable purpose of constructing a system of railways connecting the industrial and commercial centres of the country. And it is upon this nation—peaceful, orderly, and promise-keeping—that the Government of Spain, bankrupt at home but reckless and extravagant abroad, has on a day's warning let loose its naval power. Upon a string of pretexts so futile that their audacity cannot be matched, even among the proclamations of Frederick II. or Louis XVI., the Spanish Admiral has blockaded the Chilean ports, captured Chilean merchantmen, prevented the ships of innocent neutrals from carrying their cargoes to their destination, and lighted up a new war in the southern hemisphere.

Last year a Spanish force seized the Peruvian islands of Chincha. It was said at the time that the act was unauthorised by the Spanish Government, though the benefit of it was afterwards adopted by them. We are not, however, at present concerned with the legality or the morality of this action; we may even assume that the seizure of the islands was forced upon Spain by the contumacious disregard of her just demands by Peru; it is enough, for the purpose of understanding what followed, to recall the circumstance as an historical fact, and to add that it naturally gave rise to some reflections on the part of the inhabitants of the neighbouring Republic of Chili. It must also be borne in mind that, though the occupation of the Chincha Islands took place early in the spring, war between Spain and Peru was not declared till the 27th of September, after the Spanish Government had resolved on maintaining the occupation which had been effected. It was under these circumstances that the acts of the Chilean Government and the Chilean people took place which the Spanish Government resented as injurious and made the foundation of their blockade of the Chilean ports. Spain was not, however, idle up to the time that Admiral Pareja arrived at Valparaiso. The resident Minister of her Catholic Majesty in Chili, Senor Tavira, was instructed to remonstrate with the Chilean Government and to demand an explanation of its apparently unfriendly conduct. A correspondence between Senor Tavira and the Chilean Minister followed, and explanations were given, which Senor Tavira, in a note dated the 20th of May last, declared were, in his opinion, sufficient. The home Government of Spain was not, however, satisfied; Senor Tavira was recalled and censured for his candour, and Admiral Pareja was dispatched with his squadron to Valparaiso. With this preface we arrive at the events of last September, and are enabled, from Admiral Pareja's own despatch, impartially to estimate the charges of the Spanish Government against the Republic of Chili. It may, however, be noticed that, by an odd mischance, Admiral Pareja arrived at Valparaiso on the eve of the 18th of September. The 18th of September is a sacred day in Chili; it is its 4th of July, the birthday of its national existence, and it was on this day that a peremptory demand was made upon the Chilean Government to acknowledge its misbehaviour by saluting the Spanish flag. The actual complaints which Admiral Pareja was commissioned to make were four. The first was that insults and seditious words against Spain had been pronounced in front of the house occupied by the Spanish Legation, and that neither the authors of the scandal nor those who might have prevented it had been punished for it; but, waiving for a moment the extreme vagueness of the accusation, which states neither the time of the occurrence nor the numbers engaged in it, it seems evident that on this point, if on no other, the declaration of the resident Ambassador that he was satisfied ought to be sufficient. All the particulars of the affair must have been known through him, and he was perfectly able to decide whether the Chilean authorities had justified themselves against the charge of inaction. The second accusation is more monstrous. It complains that a newspaper called the *San Martin*, which had attacked the policy of Spain, had not been suppressed, although it confesses that the laws of the Republic gave no power to the authorities to interfere with the liberty of the press. The charge is, that the Government did not do indirectly what it was unable to do directly—that is, that it did not override the law in order to extinguish a journal which had commented with the freedom natural to the occasion on the seizure of the Chincha Islands. The third and fourth accusations, which exhaust the indictment, may be taken together, for they are complaints of Chili's neutrality in the war between Spain and Peru. The charges are that in the interval between the seizure of the Chincha Islands and the declaration of war Chili allowed a Peruvian war-steamer to refit in a Chilean port, and even to enlist seamen there; and the second, that, after the declaration of war, Chili declared coal contraband of war, and Chilean citizens were forbidden to supply it to either belligerent. Nothing can be more absurd than the first charge, that it was a breach of neutrality to allow a vessel to refit before war was declared. It is obvious that before war is declared there can be no belligerents, and if not belligerents no neutrals, and if not neutrals no breach of neutrality. It appears, however, from the manifesto of the Spanish Admiral itself, that the Chilean Government had a good answer to the charge, even supposing the ship had been refitted after war had been declared, for they say that the refitment and enlistment were limited to what was absolutely necessary to the navigation of the vessel, and were therefore just what Confederate ships during the late war were allowed the benefit of at Brest, with the acquiescence of the Federal Government. The remark which the Spanish Admiral makes on this defence is almost incredible. It is simply this, that the Chilean Government had not proved that the enlistment was limited to what was necessary to the navigation of the vessel, as if the burden of proving himself innocent lay upon the accused, instead of the burden of proving guilt lying upon him who brings the accusation. The determination of the Government of Chili to make coal contraband of war is evidently one of those acts which lies within its unquestioned authority; it is the duty of the Government of a neutral nation to make orders for the observance of neutrality, and nothing can be more just or more consonant with the law of nations, either on principle or authority, than to declare the supplying the steamers of a belligerent with coal a breach of neutrality. The additional charge that French vessels were allowed to coal in Chilean ports although war existed in Mexico, is too trifling to need refutation. These four charges, and these four only, were those detailed by Admiral Pareja with a demand that the Spanish flag be immediately saluted as an acknowledgment of the insults enumerated in them, and a threat that, unless a favourable answer came within four days, force would be used to compel a redress of the wrongs which it was alleged Spain had suffered. The Chilean Government replied temperately, but with spirit, to this insolent manifesto. It met in detail every charge which had been brought against it, positively refused to apologise for offences of which it had not been guilty, and declared that if war should arise "the Republic, sustained by the justice of its own cause, taking God for judge and the civilised world for a witness of the contest, would defend its honour and rights to the last extremity." A blockade followed, in spite of the

united remonstrance of the Diplomatic Corps resident in Chili, and, in reply to the blockade, the Chilean Chambers have declared war against Spain. Commerce is at a standstill, the industry of Chili is paralysed, its peaceful intercourse with the rest of the world is abruptly closed, because Spain has arrogantly determined upon creating wrongs where there are none, and is possibly annoyed at the reproval which the prosperity of free Chili casts upon its own misgovernment.

We have reason to believe that at the Cabinet held on Saturday it was determined to address an energetic remonstrance to the Spanish Government against the conduct of the Admiral commanding the Spanish fleet off Valparaiso and the means taken by Spain to enforce her demands upon Chili. A Cabinet messenger conveying instructions to the British Minister at Madrid was dispatched on Saturday evening.

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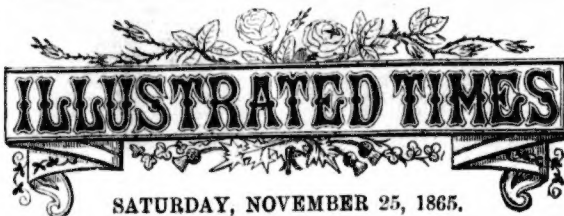
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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1865.

SOME SOCIAL TOPICS.

THE importance and value of the proposal of Dr. French, of Liverpool, to establish mortuary chapels in large towns and cities can hardly be over-estimated. The practice of keeping the bodies of the dead for several days in the abodes of the living is productive of the most serious consequences, as well as being attended with grave inconveniences. Even where, from the position of the parties, a separate apartment can be appropriated to the remains of the departed between the time of death and interment, deleterious effects must be produced by the partial decay of the body and the commencement of the evolution of those gases which are so deadly in their effects; but in the great majority of families such an arrangement is impracticable, and the dead and the living must inhabit the same room, and come in revoltingly close contact with each other. Where, as is often the case, one room lodges a whole family, should one member die—possibly from contagious disease, such as fever—the necessity for the body to remain several days in the midst of the surviving relatives must be both painful and hurtful in the highest degree. Death, so far from destroying the powers of infection, strengthens them, and adds to their influences others equally, if not more, baneful. The spirits of a family so situated must be depressed by the continual sight of the remains of the lost member; the air they breathe and the food they consume are contaminated; and they are thus rendered more than ordinarily prone to contract maladies at a time when, of all others, they ought to have rest, quiet, and healthful influences around them in order to enable them to bear up against their bereavement and to struggle to supply the place and perform the duties pertaining to the departed. The institution of mortuary chapels, to which the bodies of the dead might be removed immediately after the breath has left them, and where all the necessary arrangements for burial can be made, would at once obviate all the evils and inconveniences to which we have adverted, and, at the same time, minister to the decent performance of those acts of respect which cannot be attended to with decorum in the midst of the everyday occupations of life. A chapel is, in every sense, a more seemly place for the dead to rest in prior to being laid in the grave than the bed-rooms or living-rooms of a family. We sincerely trust, therefore, that the experiment about to be tried at Liverpool will be thoroughly successful, and that the example thus set will be followed immediately in all the large towns in the kingdom. In the metropolis, especially, such institutions would be unspeakable blessings.

The sanctity of the tomb is a subject intimately associated with the interment of the dead; and it will not, therefore, be out of place for us here to enter our most emphatic protest against the barbarous and unholy greed of gain which prompts the desire to convert disused graveyards to building and other purposes. "God's acre" should be the most sacred spot on earth. Once devoted to the reception of the dead, it should never again be appropriated to the purposes of the living. Certainly, it should never be built upon, so that men may have their dwelling-places reared over the bones of their departed brethren. A church, we are told, when once made sacred by consecration should never again be devoted to secular uses. If this be true of churches, it is still more true of churchyards. Men may find many churches in which to worship; but they can find but one grave in which to sleep the last sleep, and there their rest should be undisturbed. In this view the proposal of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to sell the graveyard in Bunhill-fields and let

it be converted into building sites is most reprehensible in itself; but it becomes infinitely more so when we remember who some of the tenants of that burying-place are. Here rest, among others, John Bunyan, Isaac Watts, John Owen, Daniel Defoe, Stothard and Blake (the painters), Ritson (the antiquary), and General Fleetwood; and surely the Commissioners can never be guilty of so gross an outrage as to permit that the graves of such men should be desecrated. This, however, it is proposed to do, for the purpose of swelling the funds at the disposal of the Commissioners; and the pretext is that the ground has never been consecrated. Consecrated, indeed! Why, the dust of men like those we have named would hallow any spot on earth; and the memory of some of them, at least, should be especially sacred in the estimation of clergymen. We hope that this proposal will evoke such an expression of public indignation as shall effectually deter the Commissioners from the perpetration of such a scandalous act of vandalism.

Pauperism is assuming a new phase among us. There is a class of sturdy vagrants who, taking advantage of the natural feeling of indignation at the parsimonious and callous way in which poor-law guardians and other officials perform their duties, are endeavouring to saddle the community with the task of clothing as well as feeding and lodging them. Their plan is to obtain temporary admission into the casual wards and then to tear up their clothing, and so compel the parish to furnish them with fresh garments. We believe the law at present does not make it binding on poor-law officials to supply clothes to casual paupers; though we can well understand that there are cases in which such a form of relief is as needful as are food and lodging. But the difficulty is, that the bulk of the casual poor are of such a character that to clothe them decently would be of no avail. If clothes branded with the mark of pauperism are given, the rebellious "casuals" will not wear them, but repeat the tearing-up process; if not so branded, they speedily find their way to the old-clothes shops, and the produce of their sale to the gin-palace. Now, we think that some liberality, and a certain measure of sternness, might with advantage be brought to bear on this matter. Let the law be so altered, or so interpreted, as to include relief in clothing when needed; let the clothes supplied be sufficiently distinctive in their nature to admit of identification, but not so much so as to constitute a badge of disgrace; and, when they are either sold or wantonly destroyed, let a reasonable degree of corporal punishment be administered to the delinquents of the male sex, and deprivation of woman's pride—her hair—be resorted to with offenders of the other sex, who, as experience has shown in the case of female prisoners, would regard that as the worst possible species of punishment. We do not forget that corporal chastisement is repugnant to the current notions of the day; but there are some natures which no other punishment will touch. We already apply it in the case of juvenile and other criminals; it is still legal, and is practised, in the Army and Navy; and may therefore be at least tried with wantonly destructive and recalcitrant paupers. Imprisonment is of no use. Our gaols, as a rule, are more comfortable places than our poor-houses, and are consequently more likely to tempt to, than to deter from, the commission of the offence we are speaking of. Of course we should not let corporal punishment be inflicted at the discretion of poor-law officials; we have too many illustrations of their tender mercies before us for that. But the police magistrates might adjudicate on clothes-tearers or clothes-sellers, as at present, and be empowered to sentence to the "cat" where they saw good reason. The first step, however, must be to administer the poor law in a more liberal and kindly spirit than at present. All that is reasonable in food, lodging, and clothing should be accorded to the poor; and when these benefits are abused or perverted, sharp and effectual punishment should follow.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES has sent a donation of twenty-five guineas towards the Working Men's College building fund.

THE BIRTHDAY of her Royal Highness the Crown Princess of Prussia was celebrated at Windsor, on Tuesday, with more pomp and spirit than any event that has taken place since her father's death.

THE EARL OF YARBOROUGH has declared his conversion to the principles of the Total Abstinence Society, and has formally joined that body.

MISS AGNES ZIMMERMAN, an English pianist, is creating some sensation in Germany.

LOHD STANLEY is to be entertained at dinner, on the 10th of next month, by the President of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce. The members for the county and the borough are invited to meet him on the occasion.

M. GUIZOT'S SON, Guillaume Guizot, has been appointed assistant lecturer at the College de France. He is to make his debut next week.

MR. DENMAN is threatened with opposition at Tiverton, although the Tories do not appear to have agreed upon a candidate.

PRIME SIRLOIN OF BEEF is now selling in Havre for 64d. per lb.

PASSPORTS are at length abolished officially in Austria, after having been virtually in abeyance for several years.

THE SHENANDOAH, under the command of Captain Freeman, left the Mersey about noon on Monday for New York.

THE REVOLUTION IN PERU is considered to be nearly suppressed.

A POSTAL ARRANGEMENT is about to be concluded between the Roman States and the kingdom of Italy.

THE UNITED STATES FLEET in the PACIFIC now consists of seventeen ships of war, mounting 189 guns.

IN THE CHURCH OF ST. MILDRED, Poultry, there has, for three successive Sundays, been no service, there being no one in attendance save the pew-openers and a few children; and on one Sunday no clergyman entered an appearance.

MRS. JEFFERSON DAVIS is residing at the house of a Mr. Schuyler, near Augusta, Georgia. She enjoys her usual robust health, is under no surveillance, and is permitted to correspond at will with her husband and friends.

THE DOWAGER QUEEN OF HAWAII visited Wells the other day, and the local volunteer band, turning out to do her honour, played—probably regarding it as the national air of her country—"The King of the Cannibal Islands."

PETROLEUM OIL WELLS have been discovered in the parish of St. Joseph, Barbadoes, and arrangements are in progress for working them.

GENERAL LEE is slowly writing the history of his campaigns, and has made arrangements with a New York publisher to take charge of the work. The book will not be completed for several months, however.

A NATIVE OF MINAS GERAES, now residing in Rio, seventy-three years of age, has seven daughters, five sons, eighty-six grandchildren, and forty-one great-grandchildren—in all 139 descendants.

Saturday last. The Vixen is a gun-boat, with her iron casing sheathed over with wood, and propelled by the new system of twin screws.

LORD GRANVILLE, who was asked by a deputation of the Sunday League to open the South Kensington Museum on Sundays declines to do so at present.

THE RECOGNITION OF ITALY by Bavaria has been officially notified, and the ex-King Francis has been invited to withdraw his Ambassador from Munich.

REMAINS OF A FINE ROMAN VILLA have been discovered on a farm near Tracey Park, Bath. The relics comprise tiles, flues, a column, and fragments of walls. The Bath Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club is excavating the ruins.

NEW YORK CITY has a population of 722,560. In 1860, before the war, the population was 813,669. The population has therefore diminished nearly 700,000. In 1860 the female exceeded the male population 10,741. The excess is now 44,587.

COUNT BELCREDI, the Austrian Minister of State, has informed all officials by circular that they must teach the people to rely on themselves, and not interfere so much. If they will not attend to his advice, and restrict the sphere of their responsibilities, he will dismiss them.

CAPTAIN GRONOW, late of the Guards, who had seen service in the Peninsula and at Waterloo, died on Monday at Paris. He was well known to men of the old school both in Paris and London, and had lately published some reminiscences of the men he had met with in his lengthened career.

THE PRUSSIAN GOVERNMENT has forbidden the sale in Prussia of the toy called "Pharaoh's Serpents" by any persons but those authorised to sell poisons, on the ground that the gases produced on lighting the preparation (i.e., the vapour of quicksilver, sulphuric acid gas, carbonic acid gas, and nitric acid gas) are poisonous.

A NEW YORK couple, anxious to be married, but disgusted with the old style of doing things, intended, on the 8th inst., should the day prove auspicious, to ascend in a balloon and have the ceremony performed in the clouds. With the clergyman and attendants the party would number nine.

THE METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS, at its meeting last week, granted a concession of the sewage of the south side of London to Mr. Ellis, to be utilised by him according to the plans he some time since made public.

DR. JENNER, after visiting King Leopold, at the desire of the Queen, has returned to town, with the satisfactory assurance that his Majesty is in an excellent state of health.

THE POPULATION OF ICELAND at the beginning of the present century was 47,200, and is now 67,000, showing an increase of only about $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. The population of the Faroe Isles and Greenland has increased in the same period by 70 and 63 per cent respectively. In 1800 the Faroe Isles had 5265 inhabitants, and Greenland 6060.

THE LIFE-BOAT of the National Life-boat Institution stationed at Theedethorpe, on the Lincolnshire coast, was the means, on Friday week, of saving nine of the crew of the fishing-smack *Splendide*, of Grimsby. The smack was full of water, and her crew had abandoned her in their own small boat, which was found approaching the surf. Their boat must inevitably have been capsized, and her crew drowned, but for the services of the life-boat. This life-boat was the gift of two attached friends to the institution.

THE KING OF DENMARK has granted a concession to James Wyld, Capmann, and Co., for laying a telegraph line between England, Norway, and North America, by way of Greenland. The concessionaires are bound to have the line between England and Norway completed in one year, and that to America within three years.

THE CHAMLINGTON STRIKE still continues, and there is no prospect of its immediate termination. It was thought by some that a late proposal—that small and round coals should not be separated before filled—might meet with the approval of both masters and men. But such is not the case, the former having, it is believed, declined to comply with the arrangement.

A YANKEE AT NASSAU, who had on hand a lot of revolvers, no sooner heard of the revolt in Jamaica than he sailed with his entire stock for Kingston, where, owing to the panic, he sold them at once at fabulous prices. He immediately left the island, remarking to a friend as he re-embarked for Nassau, that the only persons who would be in danger from his revolvers would be those who used them.

DR. CULLEN, who was never remarkable for the accuracy of his historical, astronomical, or literary statements, has a singular slip in his pastoral on "Orangeism and Fenianism." In a paragraph which he devotes to the education question, he alleges that the author of the "History of Modern Civilisation" is a professor of the Queen's College, Cork, whereas the work, of course, was written by M. Guizot. The book was only translated by the professor whom Dr. Cullen names as its author.

A VIOLENT STORM broke over the metropolis on Wednesday morning doing much harm in various quarters, blowing down chimney-stacks, levelling unfinished houses, and in some cases tearing off the roofs of buildings. This happened at the railway terminus now erecting in Cannon-street for the South-Eastern Railway Company, and a man was killed. The gale was also felt in various parts of the country and on the seacoast, from which numerous casualties are reported.

THE PRINCE CONSORT LIFE-BOAT, stationed at Plymouth, was the means of rescuing, on Wednesday last, during the fearful storm, two shipwrecked crews. The boat was the gift of Miss Burdett Coutts to the National Life-boat Institution. The Howth life-boat of the society was also the means of saving, on the same day, five men from a steam-dredge off Howth Harbour. Several other life-boats of the institution also performed good service during the recent gale.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

I HAVE seen no notice in the English papers of a fact recorded (if it be a fact) in an Irish paper—to wit, that Mr. Delane, of the *Times*, was placed, whilst travelling in Ireland, under the surveillance of the Irish detectives, who thought that he was Mr. Stephens, the notable Fenian. The information was reported by the London correspondent to an Irish paper, and, I need hardly say, must be taken with more than a grain of salt; for of all the London correspondents, your Irishman is the most inventive: very flighty, if not powerful, imaginations, have most Irishmen. However, that Mr. Delane has been travelling in Ireland is known. He has been sojourning at Newtown Annan, Tipperary, with Bernal Osborne, who, Cincinnatus-like, has retired from the political arena, a disappointed and disgusted man. He, it will be remembered, did not offer his services to any constituency at the general election. It is said that he occupies some land, and, if he does not actually hold the plough, as the Roman ex-senator did, has taken to farming on a larger or smaller scale. Cincinnatus, whilst busy about his farm, received the intelligence that he was elected Consul, and was sad. What, now, if Mr. Osborne, whilst thus rusticated, should be sent for? Would he have been sad had Earl Russell offered him the post of Chief Secretary for Ireland, with its £4000 a year? Questionable. However, Mr. Delane has been down to comfort him, perhaps, if he needs comfort. But as to the story of Mr. Delane and the police, that is doubtful. By-the-way, the Irish correspondent aforesaid says that Mr. D. was in 1848 actually arrested in mistake for this Stephens. Curious this, if true. Do any of your readers remember the incident?

Was it owing to the absence of its manager that the *Times* misled us all so in the matter of the Duke of Somerset's resignation? It told us that the Duke had tendered his resignation, and that Earl Russell had accepted it, which was only partially correct; the truth being, as I am confidently informed, that Earl Russell positively refused to part with the noble Duke. I confess I thought at the time that to accept this resignation was a strange way of strengthening the Government; for I, in common with most politicians, had always thought the Duke of Somerset one of the most efficient members of the Cabinet. He has a clear head; a strong, resolute will; intellect to understand what is right, and courage and resolution to do it. But then, I supposed that his Grace would take some other department, in which he would be more useful—the War Office, for instance, which sadly needs such a man at its head; for, under the irresolute rule of its present chief, this department of the State is getting into a sad muddle. If Earl Russell were to act upon Napoleon's motto "Tools to the man who can use them," he would make the Duke of Somerset Chief Secretary of State for War.

Something, however, apparently authentic, touching the reconstruction of the Ministry has been revealed. Mr. Hutt, the Vice-President of the Board of Trade, retires, and Mr. Goschen is to be Mr. Hutt's successor. It was always a mystery how Mr. Hutt got into this berth. Until he mounted into place he was comparatively unknown. He had shown no marked ability as a speaker; is, indeed, a very dull debater; speaks in a drawing wane; and seldom or never utters anything that ventilates the subject under discussion, nor that anybody cares to listen to; and why Lord Palmerston

manned, Mr. Hutt is dismissed to make room for a better man. Some say that he is to have a baronetcy, and, as he has held office more than five years, I suppose he will take a pension, which, together with his title, will no doubt console him for the loss of office. Mr. Goschen is altogether another man. He has won his position. It is not a very high rank that he takes, but he will rise higher. Mr. Goschen is of foreign extraction, as his name indicates, but he was educated at Rugby, and at Oriel College, Oxford. His profession is that of a merchant. He is partner in the well-known City firm of Fühling and Goschen, Austinfriars. Mr. Goschen does not vacate his seat by accepting this office. Sir Robert Peel is also under orders. He, too, was one of Lord Palmerston's protégés. When it was first rumoured that Sir Robert was to be Secretary for Ireland, an incredulous titter ran through the House. It was thought that the rumour was a joke; but it proved to be no joke. And I must say this of Sir Robert—he has worked hard and has managed the business of his department better than it was thought he would. Still he is not the man for the place, and Earl Russell has done well in substituting Mr. Chichester Fortescue for Sir Robert. But what is to be done with Sir Robert? The *Times* hints at promotion; but promotion to what? Is he to be transmuted into a peer? I can see no other promotion that he is likely to obtain. Mr. Milner Gibson has returned to town, and denies that he has been offered the post of First Lord of the Admiralty.

The firm of Baxter, Rose, and Co., the solicitors and Parliamentary agents for the Carlton Club have been retained to prosecute over sixty election petitions, and it is said that about twenty petitions from Liberals are ready for presentation; but it is pretty certain that not more than half of Messrs. Baxter's will be really presented. On the arrival of the time for depositing the cash, numbers of these petitions will fall to the ground, as autumn leaves fall on the first frosty night. But still, there will be a large number of petitions presented; and, in all probability, I think the Conservative party will gain strength by the decisions thereon—some five or six votes on the balance, it may be, which will make ten or twelve in a division. The Conservatives are generally more successful in the committee-room than the Liberals. The cause of this is not far to seek. The Conservatives carry their elections mainly by personal, family, or territorial influence; the Liberals, in a great measure, by the power of money—a power which can be much more easily questioned by a Committee of the House than that of the aforesaid influence. A good many of the petitions will no doubt be paired off. Perhaps my readers may not be aware that the practice of pairing petitions prevails. It does, though. But it is mainly confined to petitions of a doubtful character. Thus Smith, a Conservative, has presented a petition, the success of which, when the evidence comes to be examined, is declared by the agent to be doubtful; Jones, a Liberal, has also presented a petition over which his agent shakes his head. What more natural, then, in such cases, than an agreement between the Liberal and Conservative agents to pair off Smith and Jones? or it may be that the evidence in both cases may be reasonably strong, but the petitioners weak—in pocket—and therefore agree to pair. I have known many of these pairing cases.

Vae victis—woe to the conquered! The negroes in Morant Bay rose in insurrection and have been summarily put down, and, may we not say, in what may be called a Russian rather than an English manner. Governor Eyre's reports read very much like a despatch from a Russian General informing his Imperial master how a Polish insurrection has been trampled out. However, the insurrection has been put down, and, of course, the loser pays. According to some of our leaders, this outbreak was causeless; but, before we accept this decision, we must hear what will be said about it when it comes to be overhauled in the English House of Commons. I remember, as all must do, that it was alleged that there was no sufficient cause for the Indian mutiny; but I also recollect that as soon as the mutiny had been effectually suppressed an entire reform of the Indian Government was begun. The old company was abolished; the Indian army was turned over to the Queen; railways were begun; and a variety of other steps were taken to promote the prosperity and security of our Indian possessions. And I would bet a trifle, without odds, that the Colonial Secretary, awakened out of his sleep by this rude shake, has already begun to devise a new scheme of government for Jamaica. Attempts have been more than once made to rouse him from his somnolent state, but without success. Official sleep is very heavy. Nothing less than a thunderclap, threatening to shake his office about his ears, will arouse an old official from his slumbers. Causeless was it, this insurrection? It is different, then, from almost all other insurrections; for in the cases of ninety-nine out of every hundred insurrections, and perhaps in the hundredth, oppression, or at least suffering, was the producing cause.

And now a word or two about that much-abused gentleman, Dr. Underhill. Governor Eyre says that it was he, by a letter of his, who excited the negroes to insurrection; and the *Times* and the *Daily Telegraph* take this view. Nay, the latter paper urges that the doctor ought to be prosecuted. Indeed, if this were Jamaica, instead of England, the editors of these papers would doubtless urge that he be inconspicuously hanged outright. Well, I know Dr. Underhill—who, by-the-way, is not a missionary, as the *Telegraph* calls him, nor even a minister, but a private gentleman, living upon his fortune, though employing his time in acting as secretary to the Baptist Mission Society; and this much I will say of him, a more gentlemanly, quiet, amiable, kind-hearted man I never knew. Dr. Underhill excites men to insurrection! The notion is as ludicrous as to imagine that the Archbishop of Canterbury is at this moment in league with the Irish Fenians. But how stand the facts? Dr. Underhill never wrote a letter to be published in Jamaica. What he did do was this:—He wrote a letter, marked "private" to the Colonial Secretary, and a very mild letter it is. This letter the Colonial Secretary sent to Admiral Eyre, with orders that he should make inquiries into the allegations contained therein. It was open to Governor Eyre to keep the document secret and make his inquiries quietly; but he thought fit to publish it. It would appear then, that, if the publication of this letter led to mischief, Governor Eyre, and not Dr. Underhill, is to blame. I confess these facts have made me suspect that Governor Eyre's despatch is not trustworthy. Had he no clearer case against Gordon than he had reason for holding up Dr. Underhill to obloquy? The *Times* seems to gloat over the allegation that Baptist ministers were implicated in this insurrection. Well, if this be so, there are Baptist ministers, and Baptist ministers. Governor Eyre has the generosity to say that the large majority of the Baptist ministers have been most anxious to support the authorities. I suspect that, if any Baptist minister has really been implicated, it was some poor black who presided over a congregation in an outlying district. And here it may be worth remarking that the vast majority of the negroes are Baptists; and, further, that all the Baptist churches are independent of the Missionary Society. I learn this fact from Knight's "Encyclopædia"—which, by-the-way, tells me that William Knibb, whom the *Times* has lately exhumed from his grave to charge him with heading an insurrection in 1831-2, never did anything of the sort, but, on the contrary, kept all the negroes over whom he had influence from joining the insurrection. He was arrested on the charge of encouraging rebellion and brought to trial; yes, brought to trial, Governor Eyre, mark that! but the Attorney-General said there was no evidence, and would not proceed. A month afterwards he was again arrested, but again the prosecution was withdrawn for want of evidence. On the occasion of this last attempt upwards of 300 witnesses voluntarily came forward to bear testimony in his favour.

A very funny advertisement has recently been published. It runs thus: "The twelfth finger of the left hand but one." That is all, but surely sufficiently bewildering. If I were to hazard a guess—but no, I will not, or the reader might imagine I had been told the secret. The announcement is a capital burlesque of the

ago heralded a similar work by the name of "Dr. Marigold's Prescriptions" is the name bestowed upon the Christmas number of *All the Year Round*. Why the publishers of Christmas works should thus mysteriously advertise their books is, I confess, unknown to me. The system appears analogous to that pursued by the elderly gentlewoman of Bath, who, when reduced to cry muffins, hoped to goodness nobody heard her.

The annual dinner of the Urban Club was attended on Friday, the 17th, by a numerous gathering of the members, notably by most of the metropolitan dramatic critics. I notice the feast chiefly for the purpose of recording a joke which ought to be preserved. Mr.—I beg pardon—Lieutenant-Colonel George Cruikshank, rose to reply to the toast of the volunteers. Speaking of his own experiences during the first volunteer enrolment, the venerable humorist said:—"It was very odd, but with the first shot I ever fired at a target, I hit the bull's-eye; and after that—came the Battle of Waterloo!"

It is generally understood that the situation of public-house barman is an exceedingly lucrative one. From the bar to the parlour is but a little space; and that haven of snug content may be speedily and safely reached by a careful voyager. At least, this is the popular notion; and it does not appear to be a great exaggeration of the real facts, if one can come to any decision from some statistics gathered from the *Morning Advertiser*. In that sound organ of orthodoxy and malt there appeared the other day twenty-five advertisements for the situation of barman. Of these advertisers, fifteen are stated to be under twenty-five years of age, three under twenty-eight, and one thirty. The ages of the other advertisers are not specified. How is this to be accounted for? Do barmen perish so regularly in early manhood, like the file-cutters and fork-grinders of Sheffield, that not one is to be found over thirty years of age? The Registrar-General's returns give us no clue; the mortality of barmen is never mentioned as extraordinary. What becomes of all the barmen, then, after their thirtieth year? The few who suffer from a singular hallucination concerning the principles of *neum* and *tuum*, and are taken care of in their old age by the Government, number but a small portion of the fraternity. In this dilemma I am forced to fall back upon the popular theory—that a barman is a sort of graduate in his master's business, and that, by some extraordinary means, he usually contrives in a very few years to obtain, if not "high honours," at least a well-filled purse, which enables him to retire at an early period from his profession or keep a public-house of his own.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

THE STRAND THEATRE—I might almost say the *New Strand Theatre*—was opened on Saturday, with great éclat. During the recess the interior has been reconstructed; the roof has been raised; the walls have been rebuilt; the entrances to the theatre remodelled, and that pestilential little passage or lobby at the back of the boxes has been knocked away. One may now breathe as well as sit at ease in this pretty little handbox playhouse. It is clean as a new pin, and the white glistens, and the gold gleams, and the satin curtains shine with the sheen of a clear lake. The house was crowded; and the farce of "Short and Sweet"—and an excellent farce it is—was played. Then came the "sweet of the night," Mr. Frank Burnand's burlesque of "The Africaine," which was a success. I send you a morsel of the dialogue. Inez has discovered Vasco and Selika, the Africaine, dancing together in the dungeon scene, and reproaches Vasco with his infidelity:—

Inez. Is it for love like this I've nigh been daft?
Is this your cunning? This your sailor's craft?
Didn't I read to you the sailor's plays?
Didn't you call me, in seafaring phrase,
Truer than Poll or Susan; adding, too,
Politely, *Poll* weren't half as true as *you*.
Though then a reefer, I'd, than all, had liefer
Had you! How happy had I been with reefer.
You never sent me letters from abroad,
Yet, as I know, *Post-Captains* were aboard.
Vasco. Belay!
Inez. You thought I shouldn't know it! Shark!
It wasn't difficult to keep her dark.

(Pointing to the Africaine.)

The original music—for the Strand version of "The Africaine," like the version at Covent Garden, boasts original music—is the work of Mr. Frank Musgrave, and several charming melodies and songs prove his power over sympathetic ears. Yet, still, with every respect to Mr. Musgrave's undoubted abilities, and without ignoring the merit of originality, I fancy the public like to hear a popular street-tune now and then. The new burlesque is well played, danced, and sung. Mr. Thomas Thorne and Mr. D. James, as Selika and Nelusko, bear off the chief honours. Miss Raynham, Miss Holt, Miss Johnstone, Miss Ada Swanborough, and Mr. Charles Fenton—as Don Pedro, Don Alva, Anna, Inez, and the Grand Inquisitor—must not be forgotten; and, indeed, Mr. Charles Fenton's name must be mentioned twice, for in his capacity of scenic artist he was thrice summoned by the audience to bow his thanks, which he did in his grand-inquisitorial costume. When the piece was over, the author was called for uproariously; he acknowledged the compliment from his private box. The audience called for him again; again he acknowledged the compliment; and again the audience called for him. Mr. Burnand would appear to be affability itself; for he left his box and crossed the stage and bowed his thanks a third time; after which the audience was satisfied and tranquil. The farce of "An Alarming Sacrifice" terminated the performances.

Whatever may be the merits or demerits of the new "Comedy of Society," in conjunction with Mr. Byron's extravaganza of "Lucia of Lammermoor" it is attracting hugely. THE PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE is crowded nightly. The "swells" have taken a fancy to the place, and an extra row of stalls has been constructed for their accommodation. By-the-way, let me notice that over each stall is flung an antimacassar, and the effect is very pretty. The antimacassars set off coiffures, costumes, and shoulders charmingly.

"Lady Audley's Secret" has been revived at the ST. JAMES'S, Miss Herbert and Mr. Frank Matthews playing their original parts.

The reproduction of the capital version of "Ange on Demon" called "A Sheep in Wolf's Clothing," at the OLYMPIC, has been a success. Miss Kate Terry and Mr. Henry Neville have never exhibited their talents more advantageously than in this clever piece.

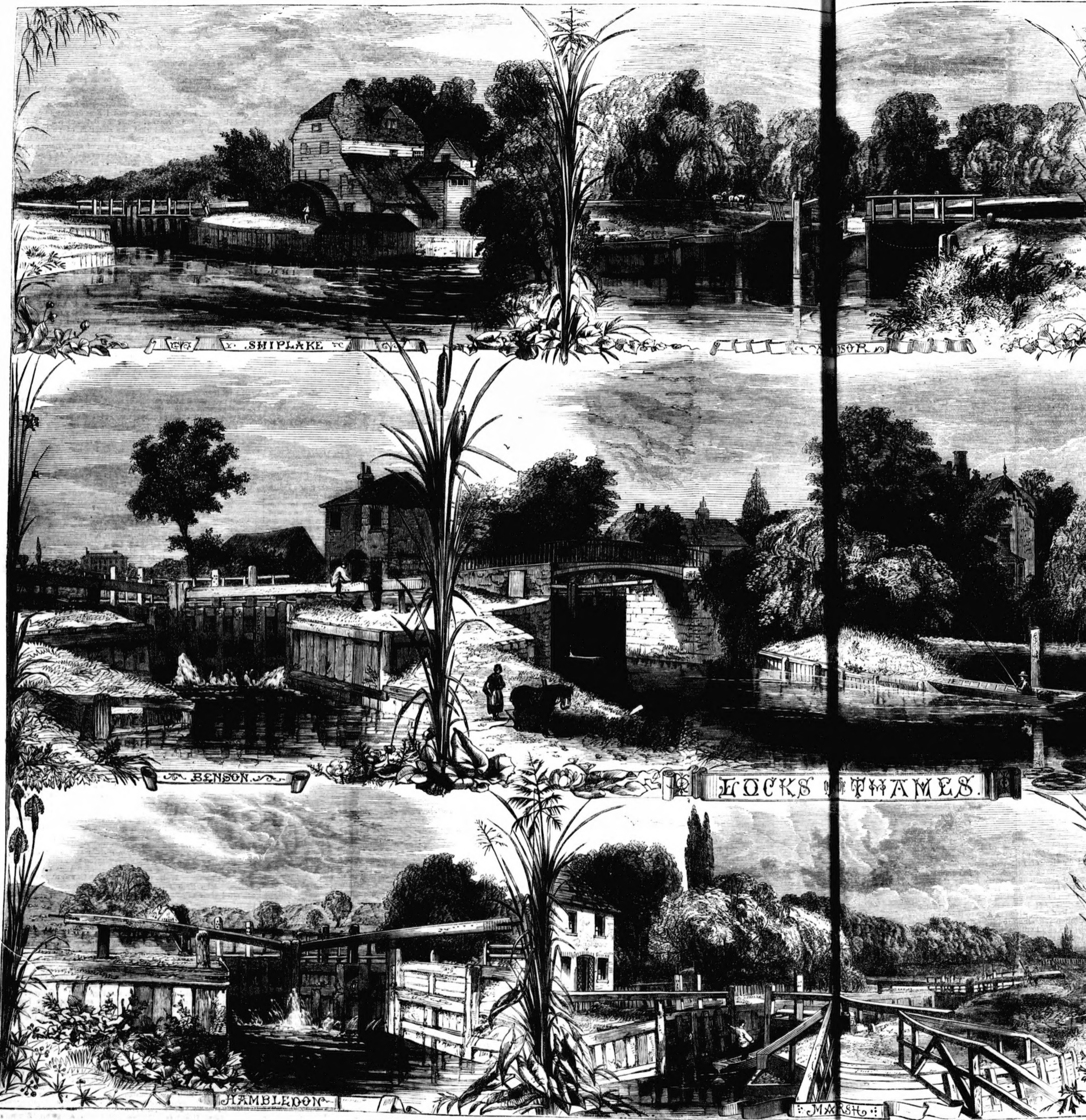
At the LYCEUM the drama of the "Watch-Cry" is now preceded by the stale, bad, old farce of "A Day after the Wedding." As a compensation, "Nursery Chickweed," with Mr. Widdicombe as Nursery, concludes the performances.

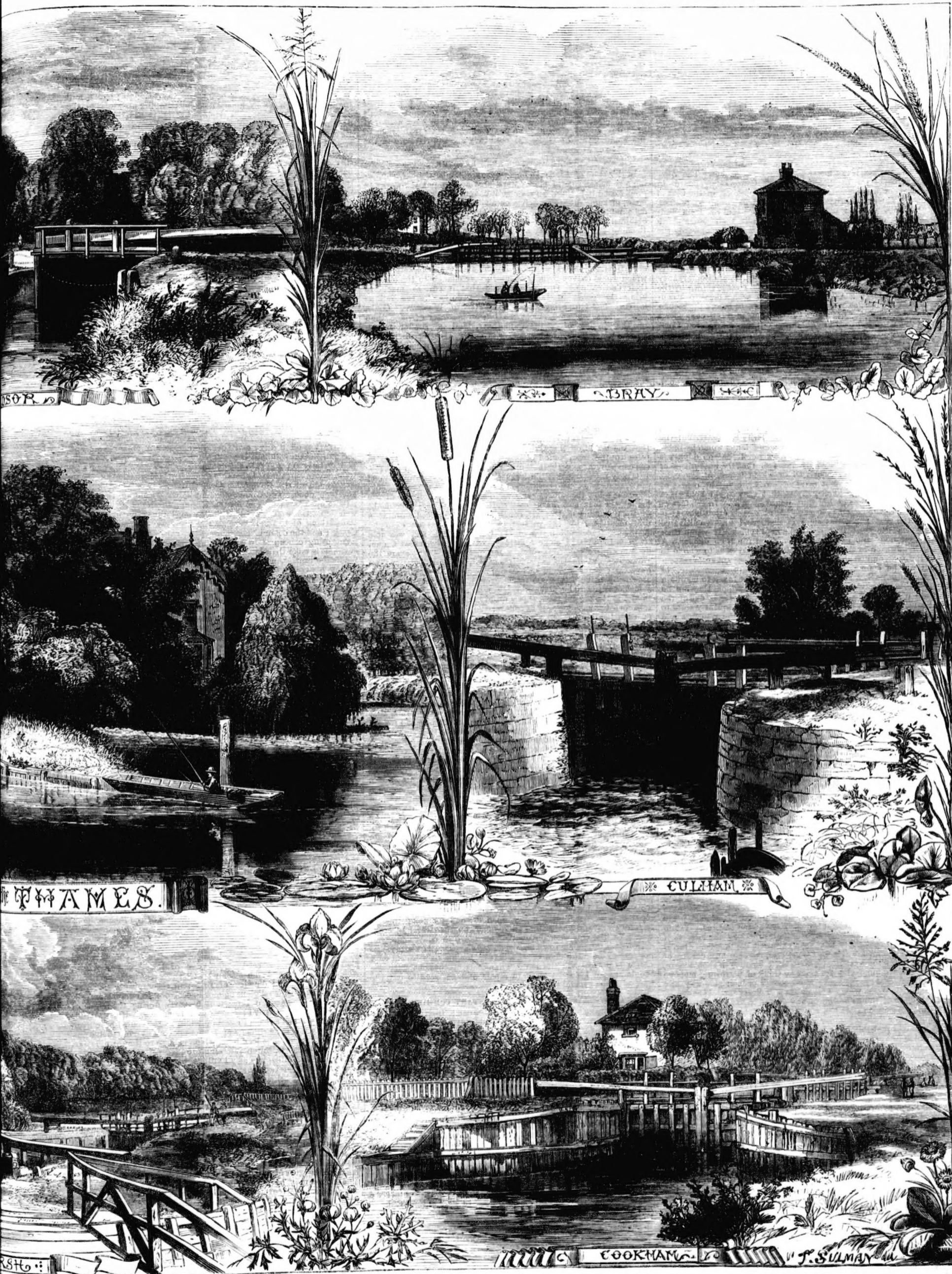
"Mazeppa" is to the fore again at ASTLEY'S, with Menken the Inimitable as Mazeppa, and a real quadruped as the horse.

A new comic drama is to be produced to-night at DRURY LANE. It is from the pen of Mr. Edmund Falconer, and has a weird, wild title—much wilder than the wild horse of the steppes of Tartary. Here it is—the title of the comic drama, and not the wild horse—"Galway go Bragh! or Love, Fun, and Fighting!" Hurroo! The irrepressible Irishman will once more be seen upon the London stage, from which he has been absent full four months. The sham-rock and the shillelagh flourish nowhere so well as behind the foot-lights. Perhaps they are theatrical exotics!

A capital two-act farce has been brought out at the HAYMARKET, which is well acted, well put upon the stage, and thoroughly successful. I shall have more to say about this piece next week.

RIMMEL'S ALMANACK for 1866, which has just been issued, is a very pretty little production in its way. It consists of eight pages, is printed on fine enamelled cardboard, and is of a size to fit neatly into a portemonnaie or pocket-book. Each page is surrounded with a floral border printed in colours, and the calendar is alternated with emblematic figures of winter, spring, summer, and autumn, also printed in colours, the border in each case being composed of flowers appropriate to the season. Altogether "Rimmel's Almanack for 1866" is quite a bouquet in itself.





THE UPPER NAVIGATION OF THE THAMES.

STATE OF THE LOCKS.

For some years past, but particularly within the last two, the state of the upper navigation of the Thames has excited considerable attention and caused no little anxiety. The locks and weirs were represented to be all in a state of decay nearly verging upon utter ruin, facts which we can verify as regards a considerable number of them from personal observation. In truth, of nearly every one of them from Staines upwards it may be said:—

'Tis a queer old pile of timbers—all gnarled, rough, and green;
Both moss-grown and weed-covered, and jagged, too, I ween.
'Tis battered and 'tis spattered, all worn and knocked about,
Beclamped with rusty rivets, and bepatched with timbers stout;
A tottering, trembling structure, replete with memories dear—
This weather-beaten barrier—this quaint old Blankton weir.

Remonstrances from the lock-keepers, complaints from boating-men and others in the newspapers, reports from surveyors, and remarks made in Parliament, all tended to attract attention to the subject; and accordingly a Select Committee was appointed to inquire into the whole subject, a report from which was issued some months since. In order that the matter may be properly understood, it is necessary to explain that the whole of the upper navigation of the Thames is not under the same management. The lower portion is under the care of the Thames Conservancy Board—in other words, the representatives of the Corporation of the City of London. Their authority extends from London up to Staines, and the locks on that portion of the river—that is, from Teddington, the lowest lock, to Staines,—are under their care, and are maintained in a satisfactory condition. From Staines upwards the navigation is under the control of a body denominated the Thames Navigation Commissioners, the composition of which will be explained more fully by-and-by. The inquiry of the Parliamentary Committee, of course, only concerned the condition of the river above the point at which the authority of the Thames Conservancy ends—namely, Staines. Above that point the river is shown by the evidence taken by the Committee to be in such a disastrous condition that the necessary delay which must ensue before the recommendations of the Committee can be put into effect appears positively dangerous. The engineer of the Navigation Commissioners stated that there are locks on the river for the maintenance of which he could not answer for a month. It was "a miracle," we are assured, and from what we have ourselves seen we can well believe it, that they did not give way under the pressure of last winter's floods, and if this be so it will be, of course, still more miraculous if they hold out through the next winter. In the event of such a catastrophe the most lamentable consequences could not fail to ensue. The navigation, of course, would be entirely stopped; but other property besides that connected with the navigation would be seriously injured, and even life would be endangered. At nearly every one of the locks there is a mill, or mills, which would necessarily be deprived of the regular supply of water, and the surrounding lands would be liable to inundation at every flood-time. How imminent the danger is considered may be illustrated by the fact that the authorities of Eton College, in the neighbourhood of which is one of the most dangerous locks, thought it necessary to write in the course of last year to the commissioners, saying that they would hold them responsible for any loss of life that might happen. In the face of such a state of things some measures are absolutely essential. It is one of the first necessities in a civilised and highly-cultivated country that the great rivers should be kept sufficiently within their limits to protect the land from damage and life from danger. A question, however, in the case of the Thames, arises as to who is to be at the cost and trouble of doing this. It does not seem reasonable that the country generally—the people of Lancashire, or Warwickshire, or Scotland, or Ireland—should be taxed to maintain in efficiency the navigation of the Thames, in which they are no way directly interested. To take the necessary funds out of the Exchequer, therefore, is unjust; and it would consequently seem to follow that the parties immediately concerned—the residents and owners of property on the banks—should undertake the task, if it is to be undertaken at all. The country might, indeed, as in the case of the navigation of the Shannon, advance or guarantee the funds needed to put the locks and weirs in a satisfactory condition, if a prospect can be shown of ultimate ability of repayment. These are points, however, which require further consideration, and about the probability of which there is much doubt.

THE MANAGEMENT.—STATE OF THE FINANCES.

The most natural and obvious arrangement for erecting and keeping in order such public works as those required for maintaining the navigation of the Thames, is that the needful funds should be supplied by the traffic which is enabled by means of it to pass along the river. The Thames Commissioners have at once the charge of keeping the stream in due order and the privilege of levying tolls upon the navigation. At the present moment, however, this arrangement has entirely broken down. The commissioners are bankrupt, and have no means whatever of recovering their position. Since the introduction of railroads the traffic has steadily diminished, until the receipts of the commissioners have fallen from £14,000 in 1845 to £3000 in 1864. The money which, under successive Acts of Parliament, they raised for the construction of their works amounts to nearly £90,000, the greater part of which bears interest at 5 per cent, and the remainder at 4½. This interest, however, ceased to be paid in full in 1852, and since 1863 no interest whatever has been paid. The creditors, in fact, consider their case so hopeless that many of them have offered to compound their claims for 2s. in the pound. Every expense has been curtailed. All the salaries of the officers have been reduced; that of the clerk to the commissioners, which was once £600 a year, is now only £150; and at last all the workmen have been dismissed, with the exception of the lock-keepers who have to collect the tolls, while all repairs beyond the merest patching have been omitted. Yet in spite of this ruinous economy and the failure to pay the interest of the debt, the expenditure last year exceeded the income. Nor, if the commissioners are left to themselves, is there any chance of their recovering their position. With their finances in such a state, it is of course impossible for them to think of borrowing money; but without money the locks must sooner or later give way, and then the little traffic which still exists will disappear. Whether or not this state of things is due in any degree to bad management is not worth discussion; for the constitution of the commissioners is so unfitted for their position, and their powers are so inadequate, that it would probably have been impossible for them to avoid the ruin which has overtaken them. We have really not the space to enumerate all the persons who compose this extraordinary board. Occupiers and owners of land of the value of £100 a year in the counties through which the river passes, clergymen of the bordering parishes, members of Parliament both for neighbouring counties and for boroughs, all the heads of colleges in Oxford, deans, canons, mayors, and recorders, are combined in one heterogeneous assemblage of not less than 800 persons. The river is divided into districts, and committees are appointed from the general body of the persons composing the commissioners for the management of the portion of the stream with which they are concerned. For instance, between Windsor and Oxford there are four districts, with three commissioners managing each; and so vague and undefined is the constitution of the board, that we were assured that we might have attended the meeting, held on Oct. 28, for the election of managers for that district, and have proposed anybody or objected to anybody just as we pleased, although, of course, we had no *locus standi*, nor any direct interest in the matter whatever. The commissioners are not even amalgamated to the extent of forming a corporation, and consequently individual commissioners may be held liable for the acts of the whole body, and the creditors are only held in check by the incredible difficulties they would encounter in recovering money from such an impalpable body. But their most fatal incapacities are that they have no power to graduate their tolls, being compelled by their Acts to charge the same toll upon all articles of merchandise—and they have a most

inadequate authority over the various interests in mills and fisheries which exist along the course of the river. The most obstructive of these interests is that of the old lockowners. Before the commissioners existed, and before the present pound or double locks were erected, it would seem that the owner of the neighbouring mill made some sort of clumsy arrangement by which he admitted boats through his weir, receiving toll for his expense in keeping up this accommodation. In this manner there grew up along the river a number of vested interests, and in the Act by which the commissioners were appointed a clause was inserted providing that the lockowners whom the commissioners would displace should continue to receive just the same tolls as when their locks were used. There are, consequently, a number of tolls on the river where there are no locks at all; the owners will not agree to any proposals for a reduction of rates, and the commissioners have no power to compel them to do so. Even though the commissioners, therefore, could put their works in order to-morrow, they would be unable to reduce the tolls so as to compete with the railways. In short, they have no means of raising money, they have no power to adapt their regulations to the requirements of trade, and both they and the river are in the last stage of decay.

TOLLS AND PROBABLE REVENUE.

In this state of things the important question is whether, supposing a sufficient sum of money were provided to put the works in proper condition, there is a reasonable chance, under proper management, of sufficient traffic being obtained to pay the interest of the debt and to maintain the navigation. On this point the Committee obtained very satisfactory evidence. Merchants resident at Oxford, Reading, and other points along the river assured the committee that if the tolls could be reduced they would much prefer sending many classes of goods by water instead of rail. It would be, of course, in many cases an immense convenience to ship goods at once from the docks, or from the ships at the Pool, into barges which would convey them without further change to the place of their destination. One witness said that it cost as much to bring the goods in London from the docks to the rail as it cost him to bring them by water to Windsor. Coals, again, it is said, are much less broken in water carriage than in the jolting of railway journeys, and a similar reason renders water by far the best means of conveyance for all sorts of pottery ware. Water traffic, moreover, is being rendered much more certain and rapid by the introduction of steam-tugs in place of the old system of horse traction, and it is found that these little steamers may be worked without the least injury to the channel of the stream. But the evidence went not merely to show that water carriage could compete successfully with railways, but that it had already done so. The Oxford Canal, in supplying the town of Banbury, has to maintain a direct competition with both the Great Western and the London and North-Western Railway Companies. Yet its manager thinks that it carries as much coal as the two railway companies together. This witness, indeed, states distinctly that the traffic on the Oxford Canal is larger now than it was prior to the introduction of railways, and the £100 shares of the company have risen, in the last ten years, from £105 to £156. It is only necessary that the locks should be maintained in good order, that they should be sufficiently large, and that the tolls should be so far below the railway rates as to allow for the expense of the barges, the tugs, and the necessary attendance. There is no doubt of the possibility of this last condition being complied with, if a case mentioned by the witness can be quoted as an example. A private trader put a tug on the Oxford Canal, and was able to take 120 tons of stone a distance of thirty-five miles a day, at the rate of half a farthing a ton per mile. These are the views laid before the Committee; but, from calculations we have made, it seems to us very doubtful whether there could, even at greatly reduced tolls, be traffic enough on the river to yield sufficient funds to keep the navigation in an efficient state. Certainly, at the present rates, this is utterly out of the question. The tolls levied at each lock are as follow:—2d. per ton on the tonnage of each barge—that is, when loaded, we presume; 1s. for each pleasure-boat with four oars; and 6d. for each boat or punt with less than four oars. We will say nothing as to pleasure-boats; for we suppose that parties rowing from London to Oxford, say, or any intermediate point, would be content to pay the tolls for the sake of the enjoyment they receive; though it would seem that, were their sole object that of getting a boat to Oxford, they could send it more cheaply by rail than they can take it by the river. On the portion of the river between Teddington and Oxford there are, we should think, at least thirty locks; a barge carrying, say, thirty tons of cargo would pay 5s. at each lock, or £7 10s. for the voyage, at the rate, that is, of 5s. per ton for lock-dues alone. When to this we add freight to the barge-owners, it is obvious that the river, at the existing rate of tolls, can by no possibility compete with the rail, which can carry some descriptions of goods—as, for instance, coals—at about as many pence as the lock-tolls amount to in shillings. If a reduction of tolls, however, would secure a sufficient amount of traffic, the aspect of the case would be changed; but this point is open to very grave doubt, as is shown by evidence taken before a Royal Commission which is now engaged in making inquiries into the general state of the Thames, as well as to the purity as the navigation of the stream; and we repeat our opinion that, if the locks and weirs are to be repaired, the work must be undertaken by the owners of the land and mills on the river's banks, who are assuredly the parties most interested in the matter. So far as we can see, but for the mills, there would be no occasion for weirs, and but for the weirs there would be no occasion for locks. Those, therefore, who benefit by the weirs and make the locks necessary should keep both in repair. The position of the private lockowners is especially anomalous. A man builds a mill, and to obtain water-power he constructs a weir—that is, a barrier across the stream—which at once bars navigation, to admit of which he must cut a separate passage and place a lock upon it; and for doing this he charges extravagant tolls from all voyagers on the river. In other words, he first makes an obstruction for his own convenience and then makes the public pay him for doing so. This is neither just nor reasonable. If a man erects a barrier for his own benefit on a public highway—and the River Thames is of that character—he should at least keep the work in repair, and not seek to cast the burden on the general community.

CONCLUSIONS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

The conclusions to which the Committee came, from the evidence laid before it, were, that, in order to obtain a traffic sufficiently remunerative for the due preservation of the river, it is only necessary to compound for the debts and the charges to which the present Board of Commissioners are liable, to raise a sufficient sum—from £20,000 to £30,000—to put the works on the river in complete order, and to place the navigation under proper management. For this purpose they recommend that the conservators of the Thames, who have heretofore managed the lower part of the river successfully, shall be intrusted also with the charge of the upper part. There seems, indeed, no valid reason for separating the management of these two portions of the river. Their interests are identical, and the true method of managing them must be the same. It is recommended, lastly, that the Board of Trade should introduce a bill with the requisite provisions; and we can only trust that no time will be lost at the commencement of next Session in passing a measure which is on every ground so urgently necessary; provided always that the burden is put upon the right parties.

Having dealt thus far with the general question of the Thames navigation, it remains to give a few details relative to the particular locks which are shown in our Engraving, premising that, though the sketches from which our Illustration has been made were taken in summer, when the water in the river was low, we paid another visit to the scenes depicted at the end of October, after heavy rains had fallen, and when

WINDSOR.

The principal lock in the vicinity of the "classic shades" of Windsor is situated on Romney island, a little below the bridge which connects Windsor with Eton. The scene here, as at most other parts of the Thames, is exceedingly picturesque, beautiful, and interesting. Her Majesty's magnificent castle-palace, with its towers, pinnacles, and bastions, rises majestically on the one side, with the town nestling, as it were, around the base of the rock on which the castle stands, while the well-wooded banks of the river on the Eton side form a fine framing for the landscape in that direction. Romney island is in itself both pretty and interesting. It is about an eighth of a mile in length, with the weir at the upper and the locks at the lower end. The stream here divides itself into three currents—namely, the waste stream, on which is the weir; the lock stream, through which boats, barges, &c., pass; and a mill stream, by which the machinery used for pumping up water to the castle is driven. The lock is triple—that is, it has three gates—which the nature of the situation has rendered necessary, a feature, we believe, peculiar to itself, none of the other locks having more than two gates. The locks, weir, &c., have been in existence many years, and have had no repairs of any consequence for a long time. The sills of the locks—particularly that at the lowest gate—have bulged up, thereby seriously obstructing the flow of water and rendering it necessary to partially open the middle and upper gates when heavy barges pass upwards, so that sufficient water may be in the lower lock to float them over. This circumstance explains an accident which occurred during summer to the screw-steam pleasure-yacht of a gentleman, who afterwards complained of the occurrence in a letter to the *Times*. The lock-keeper proceeded to "ease" the upper gate to allow the yacht to pass the lower one; but from some misunderstanding the vessel was pushed onward by her crew before the operations were sufficiently advanced, which, from the defective state of the machinery, was a work of some time. The consequences were that the yacht, having prematurely passed one gate, was swept back again by the current before the lock could be closed behind her, and lost one of the blades of the screw. This occurrence the lock-keeper felt anxious to have explained, as, from parties not understanding the system of working the locks here, the same thing might happen again. All the works here are in a dilapidated state; the weir, however, is by far the most faulty portion. About two thirds of the "waste stream" are spanned by a bridge, or staging, in which the sluices for easing the water are placed. The other third, on the Romney island side, is arranged as what is called a "tumbling-bay"—that is, there is a wooden bar erected across the stream of a lower altitude than the staging in the other parts, and over this bar the water flows in ordinary circumstances, the sluices being opened only when there is an extra flood in the river. This "tumbling-bay" is in a miserable condition. The timbers are all rotten; the fabric has bulged up; and the whole is liable to be swept away at any moment. Indeed, it is fully anticipated that the floods of the ensuing winter will carry it off bodily; and then, of course, the lock stream and the mill stream will both be rendered useless. Reports have again and again been made as to the defective state of the works; surveys were made in June last on the part both of the Board of Trade and of the Navigation Commissioners; but nothing has yet been done. The commissioners will do nothing in the way of repairs upon this lock, and for this reason: on the efficiency of the weir depends the working of the water-mill already mentioned; on the working of the mill depends the supply of water to Windsor Castle; and the commissioners, therefore, consider that the Government being concerned in keeping up the supply of water to the castle, it is more their business than that of the commissioners to repair the weir. And so we have an illustration of the old story of falling between two stools. We suspect the commissioners will have the best of it in the end, and that Government will have to step in and repair the works on Romney island; and it certainly would have been wiser to have done the work in summer than to have left the tottering fabric exposed to the dangers of another winter's floods, which, by-the-way, sometimes overflow the island entirely, the water having occasionally been seven inches deep in the floor of the lock-house parlour. Mr. Tull, the lock-keeper, we found to be an intelligent, vigorous man, of about fifty years of age, and not by any means "worn-out," as a grumbler in the *Times* described him.

COOKHAM, BRAY, AND RAY.

Cookham is a romantic small town on the north bank of the river, about three miles north of Maidenhead. The place has long been famous for its boots and shoes, the manufactory of Messrs. Burrows and Sons having an almost world-wide celebrity. There are curriers' shops, clickers' shops, &c., on the premises; but the greater part of the "making-up" is done out of doors, the population for miles round being engaged in it. Between 200 and 300 hands are employed, and the product of their labour is sent all over the provinces, and is exported largely to Australia, America, &c. The lock here is in the same state of decay as at other places; indeed, as this remark applies with more or less force to each, we will not repeat it in other instances except where some special feature calls for particular notice. The lock-house, situated on an island nearly in the middle of the stream, is a very picturesque object, and the scenery all around is extremely beautiful. The only means of access to the lock-house is by ferry-boat, the stream, or rather two divisions of it, having to be crossed in this way ere the house can be reached.

The village of Bray is in Berkshire, at the eastern extremity of the county, on the banks of the Thames, which here forms the boundary between Bucks and Berks. Taplow station, on the Great Western Railway, is about two miles from the town, which contains some handsome residences, and is supposed to have been the site of a Roman station named Bibracte. There is here a charitable institution known as "Jones's Hospital," which was founded, in 1627, by William Goddard, and by him placed under the control of the Fishmongers' Company of London, of which six out of the forty inmates must be freemen. It contains a chapel and forty houses, the money allowances being, for a single man, 7s. per week, and for a man and wife 12s., besides their houses. Bray is famous as having been the place where lived the celebrated "Vicar of Bray," Simon Aleyne, who died in 1588, and who declared that the great principle of his life was to live and die vicar of Bray; to accomplish which purpose he changed his religious opinions according to circumstances—having been Roman and Protestant by turns during the reigns of Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth. He was thus twice a Papist and twice a Protestant; but, as he secured his object, we suppose the inconsistency of his opinions did not trouble his conscience much. The lock here, which is close to the town, is like all the rest—that is, rotten and falling to pieces.

Ray, or Ray Mills, is a small village in the parish of Cookham about a mile from Taplow station. There are here extensive corn-mills, a brewery belonging to Messrs. Fuller, and the large paper-mills of Messrs. Venables. The lock at Ray is a private one, and is not under the control of the Navigation Commissioners. It is designed mainly for the benefit of the mills on the banks of the river; and, having lately been repaired, is in tolerably good order. The same tolls are, we believe, levied at Ray as at the other locks. Just below Ray Mills, on the Bucks side of the river, is Cliefden, the beautiful residence of the Dowager Duchess of Sutherland, which has an additional interest from the fact that it was here that Garibaldi retired during his late visit to England for a little rest from the fatigues of public receptions, entertainments, and ovations. The house may be seen from Maidenhead Bridge, and the finely-wooded grounds (covered in summer with dense masses of foliage) extend along the water's edge for a considerable distance—as far, indeed, as opposite to Cookham Lock.

HAMBLETON AND HENLEY-ON-THAMES.

Hambleton lock, in Berkshire, is situated about four miles below Henley, and is placed upon an island partly natural and partly artificial. There are here two weirs and one double-gated lock. The one weir is designed to retain the water for the lock, and the other to form a reservoir for water-power to drive a large flour-mill at the lower extremity of the island. Hambleton lock

was what is called repaired during last summer—that is, certain balks of timber and bars of iron have been bolted upon the gates, and one new lever-beam has been inserted; but this repairing is manifestly of a very makeshift character, as what remains of the old fabric—that is, nearly the whole of it—stands as much in need of renewal as what has been removed could have done. On one of the weirs several large eel-baskets are fixed, in which, during two nights last month, nearly 300lb. of fish were caught. This fine “haul,” we were assured, could be repeated whenever there is a sufficient flood upon the river to bring down the fish; and might, one would suppose, be made a lucrative venture, as the fish, which are of excellent quality, as we can testify by experience, would find a ready market if sent to London. At present, we believe, they are principally disposed of in the neighbourhood.

The scenery between Hambledon lock and Henley is very fine; indeed, we doubt if any other part of the valley of the Thames, replete as it is with beautiful views, could furnish anything more pleasing than that splendid amphitheatre formed by the river in the centre and those finely-wooded hills rising on each side. When we last visited the spot—on the 28th of October—the foliage of the trees was in all the rich glory of varied autumn tints—brown, red, and purple being interspersed with, and relieved by, the still bright green of the oak, and forming altogether about the loveliest glimpse of natural beauty we have ever enjoyed. At about a mile and a quarter below Henley stands Temple Island, said to be of the exact length of the Great Eastern steam-ship; but this, we think, must be an exaggeration—of the ship, we mean—for certainly the island looks longer than the great ship, enormous as are her dimensions. From the upper end of the island to Henley Bridge is the Henley regatta course—a clear, straight, smooth stretch one mile and a quarter in length, and admirably adapted for the purpose, as a full view of the boats can be obtained at any point and from end to end of the course.

Henley-on-Thames and its vicinity, besides their natural beauties, have sources of interest of other kinds. In the time of Edward the Confessor Henley was held by Westan, one of that monarch's thanes. After the Conquest it belonged to Hugh de Bolebeck, whose son largely endowed Woburn Abbey, giving to it among other lands, those of Medmenham. In the abbey of Medmenham, as most readers will be aware, Wilkes and his disolute companions were wont, under the title of the monks of St. Francis, to hold those orgies which gained for them and for the place an unenviable notoriety. Medmenham Abbey, which stands on the banks of the Thames at a short distance from Henley, is now a favourite resort of picnic parties in summer. The church of Henley, which is mainly an ancient structure, is remarkable as the burial-place of Dumouriez, the famous French Republican General. In an inn at Henley—the Red Lion, we think—is shown the room in which Shenstone wrote his humorous eulogy on “Life in an Inn.” The poem itself has, in fact, been inscribed with a diamond on a pane of glass in the window; but whether by the poet himself or not we do not now remember. Henley Bridge was once thought to be the finest structure of the kind on the Thames; and, though it is now surpassed by more modern erections, it has some title to the distinction claimed for it, and is even now a very handsome structure.

MARSH.

The lock at Marsh, about a mile above Henley, is, perhaps, the most complicated on the Thames. The stream is here divided into no less than four currents. On the right, or Oxford side, is a mill stream, which drives a paper and a flour mill; next to that is the waste stream; next, the passage for navigation, on which is the lock; and, lastly, another mill stream. Intersecting these several currents is a rustic wooden bridge for the accommodation of passengers and the horses employed in towing barges. This bridge starts from the Oxford side, reaches over to the island on which the lock is erected, and then stretches back to the Oxford bank above the mills. This bridge gives an extremely picturesque air to the place, which would otherwise be spoilt by the mills on each bank; but, along with the lock-gates and weir, it is in a thoroughly dilapidated state. It sways and vibrates under the tread, and seems as if it would fall to pieces were a couple of men or a horse to pass along it at a run. The lower division of this bridge is about fifty yards, and the upper about forty yards, long. The hand-railing on the foot-bridge across the lock is so rickety that the slightest push would knock it off into the stream.

SHIPLAKE.

From Marsh to Shiplake, a distance of about three miles, there is a pathway, partly along the bank of the river, and partly through the grounds of a Captain Philimore, if we remember rightly. At Shiplake, as at most of the other locks, there are paper and flour mills, one of which belongs, we believe, to a Mr. Baskerville, a name once famous in the annals of printing. In the church, at a little distance from the lock, there is a tablet to the memory of Granger, author of the “Biographical History of England.” The lock-keeper at Shiplake, Mr. Small, is a very aged man, having been born in 1790, and has been resident here since 1805. On two occasions—in 1804 and in 1809—the lock-house floor was flooded 18 in. deep with water. The lock was in existence before Mr. Small remembers; and has never been thoroughly renewed in his time. About three years ago, a new lever-beam was inserted; and, if one may judge by the state of the remaining one, the one removed must have been in very bad case indeed. The oldest of the existing beams is so thoroughly decayed that the weight of an ordinary man—certainly that of the Chinese Giant or Professor Anderson's Anak—would seem to be more than enough to break it down. Even the mill-wheels and their appurtenances have a rickety, green-mouldy, rotten air about them. Before the days of railways about £100 a month used to be taken in tolls at Shiplake; now, as we were informed, they “never take nothing.” This, however, is partly explained by the fact that the tolls for goods traffic are now levied at other locks, the fees for pleasure-boats being the only perquisites of the Shiplake lock-keeper, whose income from this source, during the month of September—one of the best in the year—was £1 2s. 11d.; and this, with his house and garden, is all the emolument he receives. Mr. Small is a shrewd, intelligent, and kindly old gentleman; and we shall always remember our visit to his isolated domicile with pleasure.

CULHAM.

Culham lock is distant between two and three miles from Abingdon, and about six from Oxford. The works here are in a most miserable state—worse, indeed, than those at any other place we visited. The stone sides of the water-passage are bulged out of the perpendicular, and seem about to fall into the stream. The woodwork is rotten and worm-eaten to an extent which makes it positively difficult to work the gates—which, indeed, can scarcely be shut. It is a marvel that the whole fabric is not knocked to pieces by the rude bumps it receives from the bargemen, who frequently run their vessels against the gates here and elsewhere as though they were bent on destroying the tottering erections altogether. Indeed, we may remark here that these bargemen seem to be a very rough lot of fellows, who, at Culham and elsewhere, exhibited, before both our artists and ourselves, their peculiarities in no very favourable light. They keep shouting “Lock, lock!” or “Pound, pound!” long before they reach the barrier; they are often very liberal in abuse of the lock-functionaries; and are excessively cruel to their poor horses, whom they beat and kick unmercifully for any or for no fault at all. We recommend these gentry to the attention of the officers of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The manor of Culham belonged to the Nevilles in the time of Elizabeth, but has long since passed out of the hands of the family from which sprang the king-making Earl of Warwick. Culham House is a large square brick edifice on a hill rising abruptly from the margin of the Thames, which is here dotted with numerous islands, the largest of which is called Magpie Eyott; and splendid views are obtained in all directions. The Earl of Barrymore built a theatre here, which cost £6000, and was considered the most splendid private theatre in England, the performances being at one time attended by all the best families in the kingdom.

BENSON.

About Benson lock, near Wallingford, there is little to be said. It was—if that be possible—in even a worse condition during all last summer than that at Culham. The lock-house was shut up, the lock-handles were often not to be found, and occasionally there was nobody in attendance to open the gates. Benson was a place of some importance in the old coaching days. Two flourishing inns once existed here, but both are now shut up and deserted; and neither guests, nor landlords, nor bustling waiters and chamber-maids shall ever fret their little hour upon the stage of life there more. The village consists of only a few houses.

Of the numerous other locks on the river, both public and private, it is unnecessary to speak. With the exception of one or two immediately below Oxford, which are in comparatively good order, the description we have given of those shown in our Engraving applies to all: ruin has marked them for her own; all are rotten, decayed, dangerous, and incapable of repair—they require renewal in every part.

FRANCE, MEXICO, AND THE UNITED STATES.

THE New York correspondent of the *Times*, writing from Washington on the 2nd inst., has the following remarks in reference to the despatch which he some time ago alleged had been addressed to the French Government by Mr. Seward on the subject of employing Egyptian troops in Mexico; and the existence of which despatch was emphatically denied in London on what was asserted to be “authority.”—

On my way through this city to Richmond I have seen some of the English newspapers of the 17th of October denying the accuracy of the statement I sent you concerning a despatch from Mr. Seward to the United States Minister at France on Mexican affairs. I do not know what was the “official authority” upon which my letter was contradicted, but I do know that the authority I had for the information sent to you was far higher than any which could be obtained in England at that date. Indeed, it was not probable that anyone in London could have heard of the despatch to which I referred, since it was only sent to France a few weeks immediately preceding my letter. Without, however, discussing these contradictions, it is my duty to inform you that the news I sent on the 4th of October was substantially true. I professed only to give the “tendency” of the despatch, but I am now in possession of further particulars on the subject, and I give them to you as correct to the very letter. Time will show whether my news from Washington or that which is obtained in London is most worthy of belief.

I will now give you further details about the despatch; and whether these details are believed in England or not, they are true all the same. It was addressed to Mr. Bigelow, at Paris, some time in September last. It directed him to bring to the notice of M. Drouyn de Lhuys the fact that the United States Government had been informed that additional Nubian troops were about to be sent to Mexico by France. It set forth that when the first force was dispatched from Egypt the Government did not interfere, because it was engaged in settling its own domestic differences; that, as the Emperor was aware, it had now abolished slavery in its own country, and could not but look with disfavour upon an attempt made by a foreign Power to introduce negroes into any part of this country against their will. The United States Government had been informed that the Pacha's negroes were compelled to take service in Mexico against their inclination, and were even forcibly thrust on board the ships which were to carry them to this country. The French Government was warned that Congress had repeatedly and decidedly affirmed that the Monroe doctrine must be maintained, and the Executive and the people looked with very serious concern upon the past and present movements of France in Mexico. This may not be the precise language of the despatch, but it is faithfully its tenour and import. The despatch was sent not only to France, but to the United States Ministers at Alexandria and Constantinople.

I must further state—and state it on the very best authority—that the views of the United States Government on the subject are these:—It holds that neither a monarchical nor an Imperial form of Government will ever be tolerated by the people on this continent, because it would be opposed to the whole spirit of their political system. It considers that the Emperor took an unfair advantage of the American Government in placing Maximilian on the Mexican throne at a time when its hands were tied. It believes that neither the French nor the English nation would approve a deliberate attempt to re-introduce slavery in America, and it regards the compulsory service of negro troops in Mexico as a form of slavery. It does not wish to go to war with France, but it does wish to protect and defend those political principles which the American people are most attached to. These are the opinions of the Government. If anybody knows them better than the Government itself, then reject the foregoing statement.

THE FENIAN CONSTITUTION.

SOME unfaithful Fenian, not having the fear of the Head Centre before his eyes, has, much to the consternation and dismay of the brotherhood in America, laid bare the secrets of the order, by revealing the new constitution, lately framed at the congress in Philadelphia, which ought to have been kept a profound secret. Many of its provisions, through the careless babbling of members of the brotherhood, have already been made public; but now the entire constitution has been laid open to view, and the intentions and duties of the order are as well known outside as inside the mysterious “circles.” The new “constitution” is framed very much like the Constitution of the United States, and the preamble of the latter has an almost complete paraphrase in the former. The constitution defines the Fenian brotherhood as “a distinct and independent organisation,” and continues:—

It is composed, in the first place, of citizens of the United States of America of Irish birth and lineage; and, in the second place, of Irishmen and friends of Ireland living on the American continent and in the provinces of the British Empire, wherever situate. Its headquarters are, and shall be, within the limits of the United States of America.

The members of this delectable organisation, it seems, are oath-bound; for all of them take what is called a “general pledge,” and which reads as follows:—

I, —, do solemnly pledge my sacred word of honour, as a truthful and honest man, that I will labour with earnest zeal for the liberation of Ireland from the yoke of England, and for the establishment of a free and independent Government on the Irish soil; that I will implicitly obey the commands of my superior officers in the Fenian Brotherhood in all things appertaining to my duty as a member thereof; that I will faithfully discharge my duties of membership as laid down in the constitution and by-laws thereof; that I will do my utmost to promote feelings of love, harmony, and kindly forbearance among all Irishmen; and that I will foster, defend, and propagate the aforesaid Fenian Brotherhood to the utmost of my power.

The Government is composed of a President and Congress. The Congress consists of fifteen senators, chosen annually by a committee of two from each State or district, and confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the House of Representatives. The House consists of one delegate from every hundred Fenians, chosen annually. The House meets annually, in September, in New York, and the Senate is in perpetual session. The congressmen are not paid, but the President and heads of departments are. These heads of departments are four in number—a Secretary of Military Affairs, a Secretary of the Treasury, a Secretary of Naval Affairs, and a Secretary of Civil Affairs. As the principal object of the brotherhood seems to be to extort money from the poor and ignorant Irish, elaborate directions are given in the constitution how this is to be done. Every Fenian is to pay a weekly fee of not less than ten cents, and on entering the order an initiation fee of one dollar. The Treasury Department contains a treasurer, an “agent of the Irish Republic,” a “subscription agent,” and numerous other subordinates; and power is given it to raise an unlimited amount of money by loan, for which the Irish Republic “bonds” are made out in return.

It will be seen that the brotherhood is thus a despotic organisation, the members pledging themselves to implicit obedience to the commands of their superiors. The constitution empowers the President and Senate “to make arrangements and treaties with persons or Powers friendly to the objects of the Fenian Brotherhood,” and to “appoint Envoys and Ambassadors,” and the President shall “receive Envoys and other public Ministers.” Members guilty of perjury in maligning the order or revealing its secrets shall be expelled and proscribed by Fenians throughout the world. The brotherhood have agreed upon a stamp which is to be affixed to all bonds and documents, but this action makes them amenable to the laws of the United States prohibiting the use of stamps and seals unless incorporated. The Fenians, however, do not seem to care for laws, and, as they are quite harmless, they will scarcely be prosecuted. The publication of their constitution has caused them much anxiety, for it gives evidence of the most revolu-

tionary designs; but, as they raise very little money, and the chief Fenians always find ways of spending the little that is raised other than in warlike movements, and as all the Fenians, both leaders and followers, are very loth to go and personally relieve Ireland from the “yoke of England” they talk so much of, there is very little opportunity of their putting their revolutionary designs into execution.

FINE ARTS.

MR. McLEAN'S EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS.

AT his new gallery in the Haymarket, next door to the theatre, Mr. McLean, in whose window “oldsters” remember looking, some twenty or thirty years ago, for the latest “H. B.,” opens the first of what promises to be a pleasing series of exhibitions of water-colour drawings. Some of the works have appeared in other galleries; but many are entirely new, and all have been selected with care and judgment, the result being a collection of unusual excellence.

Among the most interesting pictures in the gallery are a couple of water-colour studies by Mr. Marcus Stone for “Our Mutual Friend.” The first of these (57) is the scene at Mrs. Wilfer's where Bella stands before the fire, with one little foot planted defiantly on the fender and her head thrown back. The second (131) is the walk taken on the seashore by that truly amiable couple the Lamms. Both these works have a pleasant tone of colour and a nice feeling for effect, and prove beyond doubt that either Mr. Stone did not do himself justice in putting his drawings on the wood, or was very badly interpreted by his engravers. We are very glad to meet again with Mr. E. Warren's charming picture of “Spring—The First Notes of the Cuckoo” (39). So exquisitely beautiful a transcript of nature, imbued with all the poetry of early spring, is more particularly welcome at this time of the year, and is enough to make us endure the winter uncomplainingly for the sake of what is to follow. Of the rendering of the foreground, filled with early wild flowers and fresh green ferns, it is impossible to speak in too high praise; but the tender distance—indeed, every portion of the picture—is painted in masterly style. A clever picture of “An Antiquary” (11), by Mr. Whiteford, possesses qualities of a high order, which we are glad to see—having hitherto only met this artist as a painter of fruit, which he reproduced with truth and a harmony and power of colour that he has brought to his figure-work.

Mr. C. Cattermole is represented by one or two pictures in his happiest style, which, while reminding us of that of his famous uncle, shows evidence of a judicious study of some of the best works of Mr. John Gilbert.

Several lovely pictures by Mr. Birket Foster will also be found in the gallery; and one by Mr. F. Walker, quaintly entitled “Taking Possession” (52), in which, with a thorough mastery of colour, is combined a quiet humour that has rarely shown itself in the gifted artist's work, and was quite undiscoverable in his pretty contribution to *Punch's Almanack* last year. “A Glade” (28), by Mr. Paul Naftel, is remarkable for its fresh and vivid colouring and pleasant composition. There is one peculiar aspect under which nature is often seen that appears to have found a thorough appreciation at Mr. Naftel's hands.

Mr. G. Dodgson contributes one or two fine pictures—a view in “Knole Park” (51), that favourite haunt of artists, being perhaps the most pleasing. “The Twins” (58), by Rosa Bonheur, is an interesting but not highly-finished study. Sir Edwin Landseer's “Spaniel” (62) is, we hope, entirely unfinished, for it is very unworthy of the dash and verve of the great animal-painter.

Some of Mr. Alfred Hunt's careful and conscientious views will be looked upon with interest. An “Old Roman Watch-tower” (64) is a very fine painting, and there is great merit in “Near Durham” (137). Mr. F. Dillon is represented by “The Tomb of Dante” (79), painted with his usual skill and force; and there are some “Scotch Cattle” (67), by Mr. Brittan Willis, that Sir E. Landseer himself could not beat.

A very ably-rendered effect is noticeable in Mr. E. Duncan's “Storm Coming On” (95). The apparent nearness of the distant cliffs as seen through a watery atmosphere is wonderfully well given.

“On the Hill-side, Surrey” (61), by Mr. W. Lucas, and “A Smiling Face” (140), by Mr. T. Lucas, are both clever pictures; and so is a “Study of a Head” (151), by Mr. Smallfield. Mr. Vicat Cole's “Early Morning” (155) is painted with his accustomed knowledge of natural effects; and there are also some truthful bits of scenery by Mr. Mole.

Mr. Shalders contributes one or two pictures, in which the sheep are painted with a thorough knowledge and the landscaping is rendered with much poetry. Mr. Downard's somewhat similar pictures, although possessing considerable merit, will not bear comparison with these.

Mr. H. T. Greene's work is too like a woolly chromolithograph. This faulty texture spoils what would otherwise be a pleasing enough little picture of “Nutting” (3).

Of the works of Mr. John Gilbert, Mr. David Cox, and Mr. G. Cattermole, we need say no more than that they are good specimens of their various styles. Messrs. Carl Haag and Carl Werner are also represented by worthy examples, and so is Mr. Ludgren, though these are marked by the uncertainty and occasional weakness which distinguish many of his otherwise excellent pictures.

In our notice of Mr. Gambart's exhibition last week we fell into an error, for which not we but the advertisements of the Suffolk-street Exhibition are accountable. It would appear that the title of “The Winter Exhibition,” of which there are at present two claimants, is the property of the French Gallery, at which it has always been held (the name of the management never having been given until now), first, under the direction of Mr. Lewis Pocock, subsequently under that of Mr. Wallis, and this year with the supervision of Mr. Gambart himself.

REDUCTION IN THE PRICE OF GAS SUPPLIED IN THE CITY.—The Great Central Gas Consumers' Company have announced that the price of their gas will be reduced at Christmas next to 4s. per 1000 cubic feet. The company also intimate the probability that by Christmas, 1886, their certified accounts, as required by Parliament under the provisions of the metropolis Gas Act, 1860, will entitle the consumers to a further reduction of 6d. per 1000 cubic feet.

EXTRAORDINARY DISCOVERY OF CHILDREN'S BODIES.—The dead bodies of four infants having been found in a cellar in Cripplegate, an inquest was held to inquire into the circumstances of this remarkable occurrence. It appeared that they had been placed there to oblige an undertaker who had received them for burial, but had got into pecuniary difficulties. This person, on being examined, affirmed that they were the bodies of still-born children, and that they had been in his possession for several years. The jury returned a special verdict, in which they recommended the police authorities to direct their attention to the subject. To say the least, such practices are calculated seriously to injure the health of the community; and, although in this particular instance there is no reason to doubt the explanation of the undertaker, it is obvious that the system tends to facilitate the disposal of the dead bodies of children, and should be vigorously suppressed.

MR. SPURGEON AND THE END OF THE WORLD.—Mr. Spurgeon having had sent to him some tracts purporting to be written by himself, which predict the end of the world as likely to come next year, the rev. gentleman, at a meeting held in his chapel last week, thus energetically repudiated the authorship attributed to him:—“You will hear of me in Bedlam when you ever hear such rubbish as that from me. The Lord may come in 1886, and I shall be glad to see Him; but I do not believe He will, and the reason why I do not believe He will is, because all these twopenny-halfpenny false prophecies say He will. If they said that He would not come, I should begin to think He would; but, inasmuch as they are all crying out as one man that He will come in 1886 or 1887, I am inclined to think He will not arrive at any such time. It seems to me that there are a great many prophecies which must be fulfilled before the coming of Christ which will not be fulfilled within the next twelve months; and I prefer to stand in the position of a man who knows neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man cometh—looking always for His appearing, but never interfering with those dates and figures which seem to me to be only proper amusement for young ladies who have nothing else to do, and who take to that instead of reading novels, and for certain divines who have exhausted their stock of knowledge about round doctrine, and therefore try to gain a little ephemeral popularity by shuffling texts of Scripture as the Norwood gipsies shuffled cards in days gone by.”

THE WALLACHIANS.

Just before the outbreak of the Crimean War, few places were more familiar in the mouths of the public and in the newspapers than Wallachia and Moldavia, which were generally conjoined and spoken of as the Danubian Principalities. At the close of the contest these provinces were placed under the government of Prince Couza, subject to the suzerainty of the Sultan. Thus they have continued ever since, but not without occasional indications that all was not quite serene in the internal affairs of the provinces. Disputes with the sovereign power, Turkey, as to the maintenance of garrisons in a fort or forts at Bucharest first redirected attention to these countries; then came a revolutionary change of the constitution inaugurated by the ruler himself; next, differences as to religious property; now there is a question as to the successor of the present ruler, Prince Couza; and projects have even been started to include these provinces in a resuscitated Greek empire; and, failing this, to compensate Austria for the surrender of Venetia to Italy by incorporating these provinces and others in the vicinity of the Danube with the empire of the Hapsburgs. Whether this project will ever come to be realised or not, and whatever may be the result of the internal troubles of the people and of their position in reference to Turkey, certain it is that the Wallachians are a very interesting people, and are likely to come prominently into view in any future complications in the east of Europe. In these circumstances, a few particulars about this race, in connection with our Engraving of some peasants of the country, will not be uninteresting.

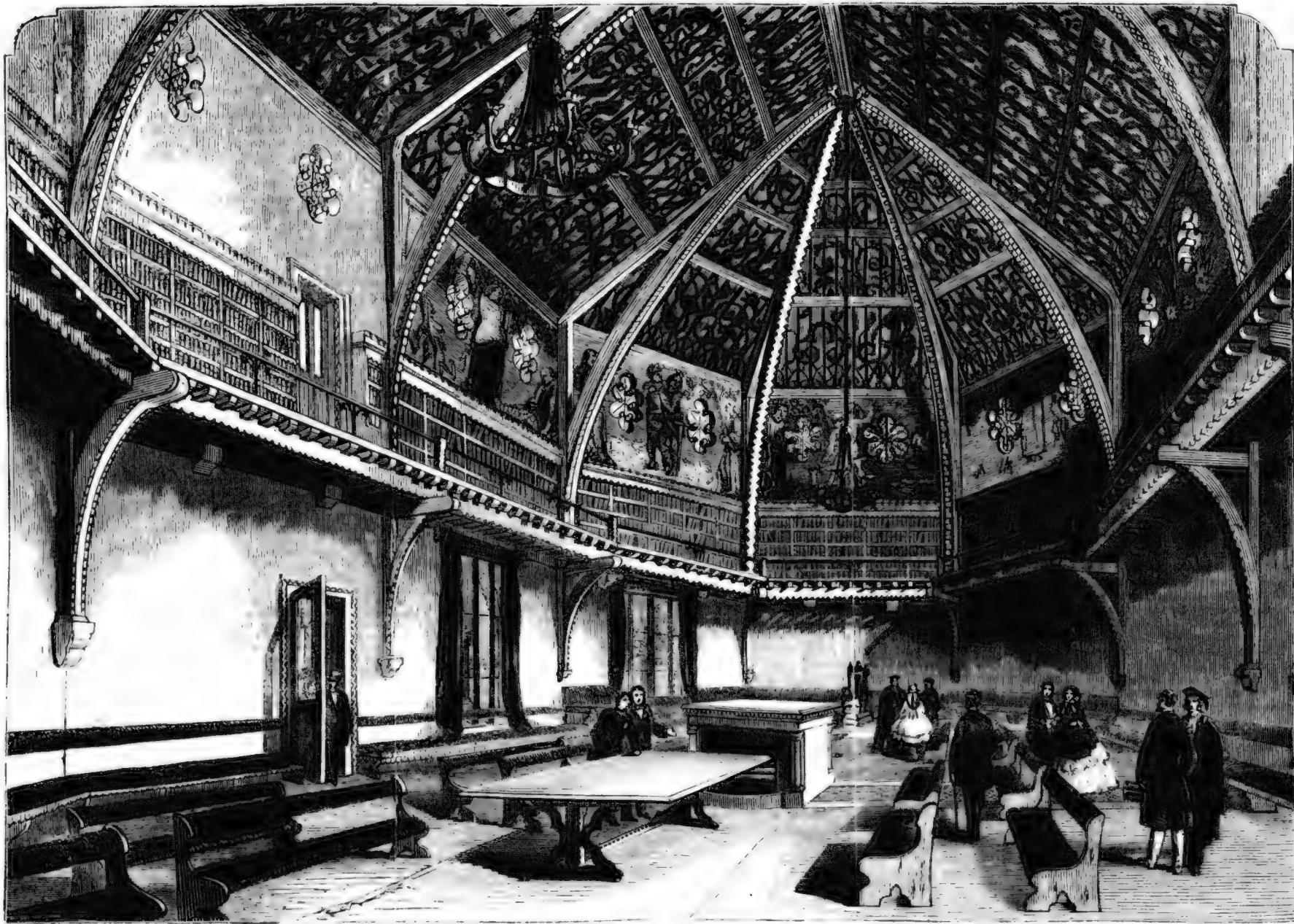
The Wallachians are not confined to Wallachia; they inhabit Moldavia and parts of southwestern Russia; they are very numerous in Transylvania and Eastern Hungary; they form part of the population of the Bukovina, and they are very numerous in Thrace, Macedonia, Thessaly, and Epirus. Their number has been estimated at between three and four millions; but this estimate is rather low, and apparently does not comprehend the Wallachians of Macedonia and the adjacent countries, or the Kutzo-Wallachians, who



WALLACHIAN PEASANTS.

form a very considerable part of the population in the countries mentioned above. As the Wallachian language is apparently derived from the Latin, it is generally supposed that the Wallachians are the descendants of the Roman colonists sent by Trajan into Dacia. But this is a mere hypothesis, and some well-ascertained facts show that this opinion cannot be maintained.

It is true that after Trajan's time the Latin language made considerable progress in Dacia, but it is also true that the Emperor Aurelian, when he ceded Dacia to the Goths, recalled the Roman provincials (provinciales) from Dacia and gave them lands in Moesia. This is stated by Vopiscus (*Aurelianus*, c. 39). There is not the slightest trace of a Roman population having lived in Dacia during the next eight centuries after Aurelian, and the name Wallachians is unknown in the history of Dacia during that period. This name, however, belonged to some people in Thrace, Macedonia, and Thessaly, though not before the ninth century, as we know from the Byzantine historians, who frequently mention the Vlachi, who lived chiefly in the country round Mount Pindus. In the twelfth century a part of the Vlachi, who were oppressed by the Emperor Manuel, concluded an alliance with the Bulgarians and the Cumani, who inhabited Bulgaria and Dacia, and, commanded by two brothers, Asan and Peter, left Thrace and settled north of the Danube. In the beginning of the thirteenth century the inhabitants of Dacia were exterminated by the Mongols; and after the Mongols had withdrawn, numbers of foreign colonists—Bohemians, Moravians, Germans, and especially Wallachians—flocked, some to Transylvania, and others to the present countries of Moldavia and Wallachia, which thus received a new population. Sulzer states that the MS. chronicles of the Wallachians contain very good accounts of these migrations, which we also find mentioned in the annals of Hungary and Transylvania, and it is always said that these Wallachians received certain lands to settle upon. It is in a document concerning a donation which King Bela IV. of Hungary made to the Knights of St. John



THE UNION DEBATING AND NEWS ROOM, OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

in 1247 that the names of some Wallachians first appear in the history of Hungary. These Wallachians were boyars, and lived in Transylvania. Three causes seem to have contributed to induce the Vlachi to settle north of the Danube—the oppression of the Greek Emperors and nobles, the invasions of the Turks, and the opportunity of acquiring fertile lands and liberty in a country beyond the reach of the Emperors and the Turks. Thus the inhabitants of Wallachia, Moldavia, and a great part of Transylvania and Hungary, must be considered as descended from the Vlachi in Thrace, a Christian nation, belonging to the Greek Church, and who used a kind of Roman language, as we still see from the Kutzio-Wallachians. That this Roman language was used in a considerable part of the Thracian peninsula is stated by the presbyter Diocleus in Stritter, who says that, after the conquest of Macedonia by the Bulgarians—that is, in the twelfth century—these barbarians proceeded to the conquest of the "Provincia Latinorum qui illo tempore Romani, vocabantur, modo vero Morovlachi hoc est Nigri Latini vocantur." It is also remarkable that the Wallachians are Greek Christians, but that no facts are known in ecclesiastical history from which we can conclude that the Greek religion was introduced into Wallachia by missionaries, as was the case in Russia. This circumstance, however, is natural; for when the Wallachians arrived in their present country they were already Greek Christians, and did not require missionaries. In short, the hypothesis that the Wallachians are the descendants of the Roman colonists in Dacia appears to be as untenable as the opinion according to which the Germans in Transylvania are the descendants of the Goths. However, the fact that the Wallachians are descended partly from the Romans is proved by their language and their name.

The Wallachians call themselves Rumani, or Romans. As to the name Wallachians, which is given them by foreigners, several hypotheses have been proposed. The name is said to be derived from *Wloch*, a Servian word signifying a "shepherd," or from the *Wolochi*, a Turkish nation living north of the Danube and in Russia. It seems, however, that the word Wallachian comes from the Slavonic *Wloch* (with a barred *l*), which among the Poles, the Servians, and other Slavonic nations, still signi-

fies an Italian or a Roman, and seems to be the same as the German *Walsch*, which likewise signifies a descendant from the Romans, either a French or an Italian, though its original meaning was rather a "foreigner." It cannot surprise us that the name of Blachi or Vlachi was given to these Romans before they emigrated to the north. From the seventh century, and even earlier, a great part of Thrace, Macedonia, Thessaly, Epirus, and Greece was occupied by Slavonic nations, which mixed with the primitive Greek inhabitants, or in other parts with the Romanised nations. Hence the origin of the Wallachian language.

According to Thunman, one half of all the Wallachian words are Latin, and of the remaining half three eighths are Greek, two eighths Gothic, Slavonic, or Turkish, and three eighths belong to a language which seems to be Albanian. The auxiliary verbs, the articles, the pronouns, the greater part of the prepositions, and the adverbs of place and time, as well as the numerals, the declensions, and the conjugations, are all Latin, and so is generally the groundwork of the language.

The Wallachians use the Cyrillian alphabet, which consists of forty-two letters, and was invented by Bishop Cyrillus about 870, when he first wrote in the old Slavonic language in Serbia; the present Russian alphabet is derived from the Cyrillian. They have always had a written language, and the number of their chronicles, annals, and ecclesiastical works is considerable; but only a few of them are printed.

THE UNION SOCIETY'S DEBATING-ROOM AND NEWS-ROOM, OXFORD.

OUR Illustration displays an internal perspective view of the famous Union Society's Debating-room at Oxford, showing forth the features of its constructive characteristics. This building is from the designs of Sir Thomas Deane and Son and B. Woodward, and has been successfully carried out by Mr. C. C. Bramwell, as assistant architect; the general contractor being Mr. Wyatt, of Oxford; and the gaseliers and ornamental ironwork furnished by Mr. Skidmore, of Coventry. This room is specially adapted for the members of the society to debate in upon various subjects connected with history,



THE LATE M. DUPIN.



THE WAR IN PARAGUAY: THE EMPEROR OF BRAZIL AND HIS SONS-IN-LAW, DUKE AUGUSTUS OF SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA AND THE COMTE D'EU, IN THE CAMP AT ALEGRETE.

theology, &c. The debates take place every Monday evening during term time; and when we state that such eminent men as Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Cardwell, and numerous others of note, first learned to debate in this room previous to its reconstruction and enlargement, no doubt a large amount of interest attaches to it. The new structure is generally brick built, with stone and ornamental brick jambs and voussiers of the windows and doorways. The gallery shown in our Engraving, 4 ft. in width, is for the use of members of the society not taking part in the discussions. It also forms an extensive addition to the library of the establishment, having book-cases against its back wall 7 ft. in height and 12 in. deep. We must explain that the spaces over the bookshelves and between the rafters of the roof are being gradually filled with frescoes or paintings in distemper. Among the paintings already completed are works by Mr. Rosetti, Mr. Pallens (who is a private gentleman and clever amateur painter), Mr. Princeps, Mr. Morris, Mr. Jones, Mr. Stanhope, and Mr. Hughes, who have all chosen their subjects from the "Morte d'Arthur." The portions of the roof above the frescoes are also painted in colour, and have a somewhat confused effect. The room has one of its ends semi-octagonal in shape. Its total internal length is 62 ft.; its width, 33 ft.; and its height to the ridge of the roof, 48 ft.

M. DUPIN.

IN our obituary of last week we notified the death and published a brief memoir of the late M. Dupin, the distinguished French lawyer and statesman, and of whom we this week give a Portrait. As we have already stated, M. Dupin was born in 1782, and had therefore passed his eighty-third year. He was familiarly known as "Dupin l'Aîné," being the eldest of three brothers—Charles, who was created a Baron under the Restoration, and who is still living; and Philip, who attained much distinction as an advocate, and who died at Nice, in 1846. They were all born at Varzy, in the department of the Nièvre. Their father had been a member of the Legislative Assembly under the first Republic, and narrowly escaped the guillotine in the Reign of Terror. The three brothers received their education in their father's house. The eldest was sent to Paris to study law, and was admitted to a school called the "Académie de Législation," founded by Tronchet, Target, and Regnaud de St. Jean d'Angely, in place of the old schools of law which the Revolution had suppressed. He was called to the Paris Bar in 1802, and on the reopening of the old schools was admitted to the degree of Doctor of the Faculty. At this early period of his career he published several elementary works on jurisprudence, one of which, "Précis Élémentaire du Droit Romain," attracted so much attention as to be suppressed by the police, the First Consul fancying that a passage in it relating to Germanicus and Tiberius was meant as an allusion to his murder of the Duke d'Enghien. In 1809 Dupin began to take a distinguished place at the Palais de Justice, and was regarded as an advocate of a high order and a sound lawyer. The following year he presented himself as candidate for the chair of Law, then vacant; but, though generally admitted to be the most deserving of it, was not awarded the prize. In 1811 he was recommended by the great jurist Merlin, whose "Répertoire Universel et Raisonné de Jurisprudence" is become the text-book of students, for the post of Advocate-General to the Court of Cassation; but in this, too, he was unsuccessful. In 1811 he formed part of a commission named by the Grand Judge for the classification of the laws of the empire. Their work was interrupted by the events of 1814 and 1815, and finally this immense labour devolved on him alone. His reputation as a jurist and as a patriot attracted towards him the attention of the electors of his native department, the Nièvre. They returned him as one of their representatives in the new Chamber, where he took his seat with the Liberal Opposition. Dupin was one of the first to set the example of independence. He resisted the motion of Felix Lepelletier for creating a statue to Napoleon on the shores of the Gulf of Juan, with the inscription "To the Saviour of the Country." He had little confidence in the liberal promises wrung from Napoleon in adversity, and he demanded greater guarantees for the liberties of his country than the "Acte Additionnel" offered after Waterloo, and while Napoleon was lingering in the palace of the Elisee, till the Chamber should respond to his demand to put himself once more at the head of the army; M. Dupin warned them against a second 18 Brumaire; and the abdication followed. In the secret sitting of the 21st of June he opposed with much energy the proclaiming Napoleon's son as Emperor; and the Bourbons were once more restored. In the reaction which soon followed, greatly indeed against the wishes of Louis XVIII., and to which may be attributed in great measure the disasters that drove that ill-fated House from the throne of France, M. Dupin earned his noblest reputation. Amid the general intimidation to which the democratic press has, with some exaggeration, given the name of the "White Terror," he published his eloquent pamphlet on the freedom of defence in political prosecutions, and he continued to be the intrepid defender of those who were tried by the special tribunals set up by the ultra-Royalists as instruments of their revenge. It was a signal honour that he was associated with the two Berrys—father and son—in the defence of the unfortunate and misguided Ney. But even their united talents could not save him. "Accuser," cried Dupin, in answer to the technical objections of the Procureur-Général Ballart, "you want to expose the head of the accused to the thunderbolt, and you will not allow us to show how the storm gathered." Soon after, he was engaged as counsel for Wilson, Hutchinson, and Bruce—the Englishman, Irishman, and Scotchman who had favoured the escape of Lavalette from France when under sentence of death for treasonable correspondence with Napoleon. General Alix, Savary, Duke of Rovigo, Gilly, Caulincourt; the widow of Marshal Brun, murdered by the mob of Avignon; Bayoux, De Pradt, Jay, Jouy, Béranger the poet, Lambert, and a crowd of others, had him for their defender; and the courage he displayed endeared him to the Liberals. The press, too, without distinction of party, claimed, and never claimed in vain, the benefit of his advocacy.

In 1830 M. Dupin assisted in the revolution which dethroned Charles X. He was at once made a member of the new Government, in support of which he rendered great service, and was soon after rewarded for his devotion to the "Citizen King" by being appointed Procureur-Général at the Court of Cassation. Towards the close of 1832 he was named President of the Chamber, and filled that office for eight years. Upon the fall of Louis Philippe, M. Dupin soon chimed in with the new order of things, and became President of the Republican Chamber. Even after the coup-d'état he still remained in his office as Procureur-Général, and it was not until the confiscation of the Orleans property was decreed that he gave in his resignation. It was generally supposed then that his public life had closed. In November, 1857, however, he accepted from the present Emperor his old post of Procureur-Général, justifying this course by stating, in his inaugural speech, that he had "always belonged to France, and not to parties."

As a public speaker and as a jurist M. Dupin occupied a high rank. In the Chamber of Deputies, in the Republican Assemblies, at the Bar, and on the bench, he exhibited all the peculiarities of his character; a judgment more correct than elevated; a learning more exact than profound. He appealed oftener to precedents than to first principles. With him passion was subordinate to logic. His style was precise and neat, occasionally, and, apparently from choice, commonplace. His irony, racy of the old Gallic soil, was biting, and the pleasure he seemed to take in speaking unpalatable truths in the least agreeable manner, whether at the Bar, or in Parliament, made him regarded as a formidable adversary and an uncertain friend.

M. Dupin was always looked upon as a fair type of the intelligent middle class of France—not of that portion who display their wealth and luxury in the quarters of the Madeleine and the Chaussée d'Antin and who ape the imitable polish of the old aristocracy, nor yet of the shopkeepers of the Rue St. Denis; but of the bour-

geois fundholder, the well-to-do house or land holder, the lawyer in good practice, the thriving merchant, who care little for the noble, and do not love too close contact with the populace. When caricaturists would throw ridicule on the "Tiers Etat," M. Dupin was made to sit for the portrait. He shared their good qualities and some of their defects. But inconsistencies, sudden transitions from unjust, and even excessive, opposition to courtly devotedness, when self-esteem was skillfully flattered, were in him redeemed by consciousness of independence, perfect frankness, and plain good sense. He has been sometimes held up as a parvenu, but he never affected to forget and never concealed his origin. He rested upon the native dignity of his character; he knew the value of his powers, and estimated it not too highly; and he felt a becoming pride in the labour it had cost him to attain the position which he so long held among the eminent men of his time.

M. Dupin is said to have left eleven wills; the last so facetiously worded that even the gravity of the occasion when it was read could not prevent the effect which the good man doubtless intended to produce.

THE WAR AGAINST PARAGUAY.

OUR readers have already been made acquainted with the outbreak of the war of Brazil against Paraguay, and, like all those interminable South American conflicts, of which few people can understand the meaning, it has continued to the present time.

As long ago as July, General Flores quitted the allied camp near Concordia, in order to meet the Paraguayan division, which was descending the Uruguay by the right bank, and following the movements of the Paraguayan army on the opposite side in the Brazilian territory of Rio Grande. We have learned how the Paraguayan forces proceeded towards the Banda Oriental, to raise the Blanco faction. General Flores took with him 3600 of the Orientals, 1000 Argentines, and a Brazilian brigade, composed of two regiments of the line and two of the volunteers, together with eight rifled guns. They were afterwards to join the division of the Argentine army under the command of General Pannero, and, after a difficult march, the two forces combined at the village of Santa Anna; and, with their united force of 10,000 men, Flores proceeded against Restauracion, or Passo-dos-Lievers, opposite the Brazilian town of Uruguayana, which was occupied by the Paraguayans, under General Estigarribia. The Paraguayan force, under General Duarte, amounted only to 4000; but it was determined that they should give battle to the allied troops, since they were protected by the rivers Omapiate and Yatay. The result was that they could receive no assistance from the contingent under General Estigarribia on the other side of the river; and, after a desperate conflict and severe losses, were compelled to succumb before superior numbers. The allied army then encamped; and early in September the Vice-Admiral of the Brazilian squadron arrived opposite Uruguayana, after which a conference was held between Flores, the Vice-Admiral, Pennaro, and the Baron Porto Allegre. A summons to surrender was sent to the Paraguayan General Estigarribia, which was resolutely refused; and he and his whole force were therefore exposed to the whole allied army and the batteries and vessels of the squadron, which only awaited the arrival of the Emperor to commence the attack. General Mitre arrived with his reinforcements; and the Emperor of Brazil, who brought with him a large number of troops, followed from Allegrete, a town at about twenty leagues distance. Our Engraving represents the Emperor Don Pedro II. at his headquarters in the camp just previous to the meeting of the allied chiefs, and the capitulation of the enemy. He is accompanied by his sons-in-law, the Count d'Eu, eldest son of the Duc de Nemours, and Duc Auguste of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha.

CAPTAIN EVANS, well known to the chess world as the inventor of the celebrated Evans's Gambit, and more particularly to those nautically engaged as the inventor of coloured lights for the saving of life, has received from the Grand Duke Constantine of Russia a magnificent chronometer, valued at 250 guineas, together with a bounty of £200, as an acknowledgment of the value his Imperial Highness attaches to Captain Evans's invention for saving life at sea.

DEMOLITION OF SIR ISAAC NEWTON'S HOUSE AT KENSINGTON.—The fine old red brick house in Orbell's-buildings, Kensington, as it was called when Newton occupied the premises, but subsequently Pitt's-buildings, has two announcements on its gates. One advertises the sale of the furniture; the other the materials of the house itself, which is to be demolished forthwith for the contemplated improvements in the locality. In this house Sir Isaac Newton died, in March, 1727; and here also Dr. Mead watched the dying Addison.

DEATH OF COLONEL BURNS.—On Saturday last, at Cheltenham, where he had long resided, died Lieutenant-Colonel James Glencairn Burns, youngest son of the poet Robert Burns. With his brother, William Nicol Burns, he entered the East India Company's service at an early age. Both the brothers attained the same rank. Colonel James Glencairn Burns, named after the poet's early patron, the Earl of Glencairn, was in his seventy-second year. He was a genial and pleasant gentleman, very proud of his parentage.

THE LATE W. M. THACKERAY.—The honorary monument to William Makepeace Thackeray has been erected in Westminster Abbey. The memorial consists of a fine bust, by Baron Marochetti, upon a base of red serpentine, and mounted on a bronze support. The inscription simply records the name, with the dates of birth and death. The bust is slightly tilted. It is fixed against a wall-column in the south transept, behind the statue of Addison. The work was uncovered on Monday morning, the daughters of the lamented author, the Dean of Westminster, the sculptor, and the honorary secretary to the memorial fund, Mr. Shirley Brooks, attending.

METROPOLIS GAS.—A meeting of the metropolitan gas consumers was held, on the evening of Friday week, at the offices of Messrs. J. Noble and Co., Westminster, for the purpose of "considering the present supply of gas in the metropolis, with a view of obtaining an increased quantity, purer quality, and a reduction in price, and to decide upon the steps to be taken for securing these objects and such other reforms in the matter as may be deemed necessary." Mr. Noble read the draught of a bill to be introduced into Parliament, for the purpose of enabling the Board of Works, district boards, &c., to purchase certain gasworks and erect others, and investing the manufacture of gas in the hands of the Metropolitan Board, the price of gas not to exceed 6d. He mentioned that it had been estimated that gas, with an illuminating power of twelve or fourteen candles, could be manufactured at 2s. 9d. per 1000 ft. and realise 5 per cent, and the same quality at 3s. 3d. and realise 10 per cent. The same conditions applied to canal gas at 3s. 3d., which would realise 5 per cent, and at 4s. 9d. 10 per cent. Some discussion ensued, and, it appearing that, for want of time, the Metropolitan Board had not got notice of the projected bill, and that sufficient publicity had not been given to it, objections were raised to taking the bill into consideration or adopting it at present; and the meeting broke up without coming to any decision on the matter.

BURNING A GOVERNOR.—Sir Philip Wodehouse, Governor of the Cape Colony, and exercising authority as Lord High Commissioner over the relations of Natal, with the surrounding native tribes, was publicly burnt in effigy, at Durban, on the night of the 27th of September. His Excellency was brought out attired in a cocked hat with a plume of cock's feathers, wearing a star on his left breast, and girt with a leathern sword, but otherwise in civilian dress. Pinned conspicuously on him was his "neutrality proclamation," and a despatch on the subject of compensation for a recent raid upon Natal territory by a body of Basuto Kaffirs. This was what brought his Excellency to the flames:—He has been desirous to keep out of the present contest between the Dutch boers and the Kaffirs, and to settle amicably for the raid, as it has been disavowed and restitution promised; but people in Natal hold that a favourable opportunity for the display of power has been thrown away, and that his policy tends to encourage the outbreak of a general war. At half-past eight p.m. the procession formed, the order was given to march, and the figure of the High Commissioner was borne aloft amid the light of torches, and to the music of an accordion, a fife, some penny whistles, and tin kettles, along the side of the railway to the Ordnance-ground. Here the requisite fuel had been already collected; the effigy of her Majesty's representative was impaled on "a kind of cross," which was stuck in a tar barrel, and rapidly consumed amid the applause of some 300 or 400 people, who closed the proceedings by giving three cheers for her Majesty herself, and then running away, or, as a local paper has it, "melting away so quietly and so rapidly as to leave so few components for the intended procession back that it only kept together for a little while." As order was maintained the police only looked on. The mail has brought a memorial to her Majesty, agreed to at a public meeting of the inhabitants of Durban, and signed by the Mayor as chairman, complaining of the Lord High Commissioner's policy, and expressing the wish of the meeting that the Lieutenant-Governor of Natal should have the power to decide on sending troops across the frontier to follow promptly an aggressor, if need be, up to his very strong-hold.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

MR. LESLIE'S and Mr. Palgrave Simpson's opera (for the burden must not be allowed to rest on one pair of shoulders alone) was so successful on Wednesday, Nov. 15, that it was repeated on Friday, Nov. 17, and announced for performance both on Wednesday and on Friday in the present week. We do not know how "Ida; or, the Guardian Storks" was received on being presented to the public for the second time; but we noticed that, soon afterwards, the directors of the theatre published an advertisement assuring the public, in rather an earnest tone, that on Friday (Nov. 24), "owing to the great success of 'L'Africaine,'" that opera, and not "Ida; or, the Guardian Storks," as originally announced, would be performed. We are afraid that poor Ida, in spite of her guardian storks, is doomed. We must now have heard the last of her, or nearly so. The waters of oblivion are closing around her, and she is sinking—if she has not already sunk—to rise no more. We should have been glad to have met with her in another form. "Ida; or the Guardian Storks" would be a good title for a comedy or farce in the style of the "Barber of Seville" or of Molière's "Sicilien." Ida (a nice name for an "ingénue") would, of course, be the Rosina of the piece; old Storks, her guardian, the Bartholo. It is terrible to think what short work the English public, that voracious monster, makes of our English composers. Another one has now been thrown to it, and in three nights has been what the Americans call "chawed up." What is the English Opera Company to do? must it look out for fresh victims or must it carry on its enterprise without bringing out English operas at all? An English opera "draws" for one night because it is such fun for the gallery to have a pretext for calling the composer, the conductor, the stage-manager, the scene-painter, and the principal and inferior carpenters on to the stage. We rather thought that this sort of thing was not done in earnest, but "A Man in the Gallery" has addressed to the *Pall Mall Gazette* a letter on demonstrations called forth by the first performance of "Ida," which leaves us no doubt on the subject. "It was we," he writes "who encored the piece so tremendously and irresistibly, and who called the author on after every act." And he adds "I believe there was kindly feeling enough remaining amongst us to have applauded every man in the orchestra one at a time, and the chorus, and the scene-shifters—in brief, every person, from the composer downwards, who took part in the delightful opera of 'Ida; or, the Guardian Storks.'"

In England we have appropriate music for every season, and it has been remarked that, as the commencement of the Italian opera campaign is a sign that summer is at hand, so when the grand performances of sacred music begin we feel that winter is approaching. Exeter Hall was crowded on Thursday night week to hear the "Elijah" (given by the National Choral Society), and crowded still more on Friday evening on the occasion of Mendelssohn's "Lobgesang" and Mozart's "Requiem" being performed by the Sacred Harmonic Society. Of the two great masterpieces executed on Friday night it would be as difficult to say anything new as of the "Elijah," though the Sacred Harmonic Society continue to announce that, being anxious to collect and publish every interesting particular connected with the works they perform and the composers of those works, they "request the favour of the communication to the secretary of any unpublished information." With the exception of the "Elijah," nothing of Mendelssohn's has been so often performed and is so generally admired in England as the "Lobgesang." It is now twenty-five years since it was produced at Leipzig, and twenty-four since it was first made known in this country; when, however, it was not brought out in its present form. Our Philharmonic Society was in such a hurry to introduce it to the London public that, instead of waiting for a second version of it, which Mendelssohn was known to have prepared, and which differs in many important respects from the original one, they did not hesitate to give it as Mendelssohn had in the first instance written it, but as Mendelssohn no longer wished it to be played. Mr. Macfarren tells us in his preface to the "Lobgesang" libretto that this unjustifiable proceeding was defended by the directors on the amusing plea that the remodelled score had not yet arrived, and that "it was material to the reputation of the work that a London season should not pass without its being heard." The reputation of the work has gone on increasing year by year, but it can scarcely have obtained the same success in England when it was first brought out in its complete form that it does now, the pieces added by the composer being in some cases the most effective in the whole cantata. We can scarcely, for instance, in the present day, fancy a thoroughly successful performance of the "Hymn of Praise" with the omission of the admirably dramatic address to the watchman ("Watchman, will the night soon pass?") which, however, is not to be found in the original version. Nothing could contrast better with a hymn of praise than a service for the dead, and Mozart's "Requiem" was listened to with the same attention which had previously been given to Mendelssohn's "Lobgesang." When we have mentioned that the solo singers in the "Lobgesang" were Mmes. Lemmens-Sherrington and Mr. Sims Reeves, and in the "Requiem" Mmes. Lemmens-Sherrington, Mmes. Sainton-Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Weiss, we need scarcely add that all the solo music was admirably sung. The chorus and orchestra, under the guidance of Mr. Costa, were, as usual, magnificent.

The merits of Signor Ardit's concerts at Her Majesty's Theatre may be summed up as follows. They contain no place for burlesque quadrilles or for pantomime music of any kind, nor for operatic selections, with solos for the principal instruments. Not only does Signor Ardit give the public legitimate music, performed in a legitimate manner, reserving for the voice what has been written for the voice, and for the orchestra what has been written for the orchestra; he also brings forward a great many instrumental works which, celebrated abroad, are to the immense majority of English amateurs all but unknown. On Saturday evening, for instance (the first night of the entertainments in question), Lindpaintner's overture to "Faust," Boieldieu's overture to "Le Petit Chaperon Rouge," and Méhul's overture to "La Chasse du Jeune Henri" were performed. Lindpaintner's overture was played many years ago, Méhul's quite recently, at the Philharmonic; but both compositions are "as good as new" to a mixed audience; while Boieldieu's charming overture had, we believe, never until Saturday night been played in this country at all. On Monday four overtures were given—one, that to "Semiramide," known to everybody; and another, that to "Le Philtre," known to all who care for Auber's music. The remaining two were the overture to Marschner's "Vampyr," but seldom played in England, and Cherubini's overture to "L'Hôpitalier Portugaise," which on Monday night was performed in England for the first time. On Tuesday, after the "Oberon" and the "Italiano in Algeri" overtures, came Hérold's beautiful and brilliant overture to "Le Pré aux Clercs," which to the greater part of the audience must surely have been as novel as it evidently was welcome. On Wednesday (which was advertised specially as a "classical" night, though music quite entitled to the epithet of "classical" is performed at Signor Ardit's concerts every evening) the chief instrumental pieces were Spohr's overture to "Pietro von Abano;" Meyerbeer's "Calm sea and prosperous voyage;" Beethoven's "Eroica" symphony; and Hérold's overture to "Zampa." The principal singers who take part in these concerts are Mlle. Sarcolla, Sinico, and Edi, and MM. Stagno and Santley. The only solo performer is Mlle. Emilia Ardit, who, though only fourteen years of age, is a most accomplished violinist, and plays every evening a brilliant fantasia arranged (on motives from "Norma") by Signor Ardit.

Letters from Vienna are full of the approaching meeting of the Hungarian Diet, and of the sudden departure of the Hungarian prima donna, Mlle. Ilma de Murska. The flight of Ilma de Murska from Vienna to Venice is the most important incident of a personal character that has taken place in the musical world since Mlle. Pauline Lucca discovered that the "blacks" of London disagreed with her, and for change of smoke ran off to the intolerable capital, Berlin.

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PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, W.

Just received, a new Fabric for **WARM WINTER DRESSES**.

"RUSSIAN" SILK LINSEYS, in a choice Collection of new mixed Colours, 33s. 6d. the Full Dress. Patterns free.

PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 108, Oxford-street.

A FRESH SERIES OF COLOURS IN THE "REAL" YEDDO POPLIN, manufactured of Pure Llama Wool, (in two qualities only), 31s. 6d. and 33s. 6d. the Full Dress. This material has all the durability of French Merino, but possesses more warmth, and produces a far more elegant dress. Patterns of the "Real Yeddo" Poplin can only be had at PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 108, Oxford-street.

SPECIALLY PREPARED FOR THIS SEASON. LADIES' READY-MADE DRESSES. An unusually large assortment of the above in the "Yeddo" Poplin, French Merino, &c., elegantly made and variously trimmed in the latest style of fashion. Prices (according to material) from 30s. to 6 guineas.

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AN UNUSUALLY LARGE STOCK OF TARLATAN BALL DRESSES, all New Patterns, at 12s. 9d. each (extra quantity). These Dresses can be had in Black, White, and all Colours. Also, several hundred Tailor-made and Blouse Trimmings, made in the latest style of fashion, 18s. 9d. to 5 guineas.

Patterns post-free.—PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 108, Oxford-street.

White Grenadine and Book Muslins for BRIDESMAIDS' DRESSES. Striped, Plain, or Broché, 7s. 9d. to 11s. 6d. Full Dress. 200 Richly-worked White Robes, 18s. 9d. to 24 guineas each.

Patterns free.—PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, W.

A SUPERIOR QUALITY, KNOWN AS "ROYAL" ABERDEEN WINCEY, in a perfectly new range rich Colours, 25s. 6d. the Full Dress.

Some very useful qualities from 12s. 6d. to 18s. 9d. Full Dress.

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NEW SILKS. An immense variety of Chêné, Pompadour, Satin Stripes and Bars, Reversible Cord, and entirely new Designs in Checks and Stripes, all of which can be had in black and coloured grounds.

Price 2s. to 3 guineas Full Dress.

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IRISH POPLINS, the wear of which cannot be surpassed, £2 15s. 6d. to £4 19s. 6d. Full Dress.

LYONS WATERPROOF FOUILLARDS in Winter Colourings, SPECIAL—300 PIECES OF NEW FANCY CHECK SILKS, all of which are new. Price £2 12s. 6d. Full Dress, 14 yards.

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WATERPROOF MANTLES for Travelling and Soaside, in various colours and sizes.

A size, measuring, back, 48 in., front, 42 in. .. 21s. 6d.

B size, measuring, back, 52 in., front, 46 in. .. 23s. 6d.

C size, measuring, back, 56 in., front, 50 in. .. 25s. 6d.

The same view and colours, with Sleeves, and with Inverness Capes, at equally low prices.

Illustrations of the New Shapes, gratis.

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REAL SEAL FUR PALETOTS. 30 in. deep, 40 guineas. 32 in. deep, 42 guineas. 34 in. deep, 44 guineas. 36 in. deep, 46 guineas. 38 in. deep, 48 guineas. 40 in. deep, 50 guineas.

A very large stock to select from.

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THE NEW REVERSIBLE ST. GOTHARD MANTLES and JACKETS. A beautifully light and warm fabric, most elegant in appearance, and can be worn on either side. Now ready in all the various mixtures of colour.

The Autumn Fashions post-free on application.

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VELVET MANTLES.—A perfectly New and beautifully assorted Stock of Velvet Mantles and Jackets, both plain and trimmed, from 3 guineas to 25 guineas.

The new Autumn Fashions free on application.

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FOR FIRST OR DEEP MOURNING. IMPORTANT TO FAMILIES. Families requiring supplies of First or Deep Mourning will derive the most important advantages by making their purchases at PETER ROBINSON'S, of Regent-street, the largest and most economical Mourning Warehouse in the Kingdom.

FOR COURT and COMPLIMENTARY MOURNING. BLACK SILKS—SPECIAL NOTICE. PETER ROBINSON, of Regent-street, Black Silk Mercery by Appointment, would invite the special attention of purchasers to the superior make and qualities of his Black Silks and the very reasonable prices at which they are sold.

Good, useful Black Silks, from 42s. to 50s. the Full Dress. Superior and most enduring qualities, from 3 to 6 guineas.

Patterns free on application to

THE COURT and COMPLIMENTARY MOURNING WAREHOUSE, 256 to 262, Regent-street, London.

THE NEW REVERSIBLE FABRICS in BLACK (Exactly alike on both sides). The Royal Worcester Poplin, and The Royal Cashmere.

Ladies requiring a useful Black Dress for the present season are invited to write for Patterns of these New and excellent Materials to PETER ROBINSON'S, Mourning Warehouse of Regent-street.

NICHOLSON'S NEW AUTUMN SILKS. 300 Patterns—representing 250,000 worth of new Silks—post-free, on application.—50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard.

Established 21 years.

NICHOLSON'S New CHECKED and STRIPED SILKS, at 1 guinea, £1 5s. 6d., and 14 guineas the Dress. Plain-coloured Glacé, 1s. 3d. per yard. Mère Antiques, from 12 1/2 to 18s. 6d. the Dress of 10 yards. Black Silks, from 18s. the Dress. French Foulard Washing Silks, 10 inches wide, 25 colourings, all at 2s. 6d. per yard. A large parcel of last year's Silks, from 1s. 6d. to 4s. a yard, half their original prices. For patterns, write to NICHOLSON'S, 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard.

DO YOU WISH YOUR CHILDREN WELL DRESSED?—Boys' Knickerbocker Suits in Cloth, from 15s. 9d. Useful School Suits, from 12s. 9d. Patterns of the Cloths, directions for measurement, and 45 Engravings of New Dresses, post-free. NICHOLSON'S, 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard.

FASHIONS for the SEASON.—FARMER and ROGERS request attention to the following exclusive novelties, designed expressly for their Firm:—THE SIBERIAN LAMBSKIN COAT .. 42s. 6d. THE POMPADOUR CLOTH COAT .. 42s. 6d. THE ALPINE WATERPROOF CLOAK .. 31s. 6d. THE PENGUIN CLOTH SUIT. THE ERMINE CLOTH OPERA CLOAK and JACKET. Also, a large and magnificent variety of real CHINA LAMB, ASTRACAN, and FUR SEAL CLOAKS and JACKETS, from 6 guineas to 20 guineas. Rich VELVET and CLOTH MANTLES, SABLE and FUR TRIMMED CLOAKS of all kinds, from 8s. to 100 guineas.

171, 172, 173, 179, REGENT-STREET, W.

BOWS, Plaits, Braids, Bands, Wigs, Fronts, &c., and every other description of Ornamental Hair, all of the first quality, of COLLEY, Perfumer, Hairdresser, and Shampooer, 28, Bishopsgate-street Within. Established 75 years.

EXTRAORDINARY SALE of SILKS, &c., at BAKER and CRISP'S. PATERS and WINFIELD'S STOCK, valued at £6000, purchased by B. and C. at 1/2 price.

PETERS and WINFIELD'S CELEBRATED SILKS. A profusion of Fancy Silks .. 1s. 11d. per yard—half price. A lot of over 400 pieces, ditto ditto .. 2s. 3d. .. cost 3s. 6d.

Another parcel of 256 pieces, Checks and Stripes .. 2s. 6d. .. " .. 3s. 6d.

A large lot of Rich Figured Glacés .. 2s. 3d. .. " .. 3s. 3d.

A wholesale lot of Rich Brocades .. 4s. 6d. .. " .. 8s. 6d.

BLACK SILKS. A remarkable lot of Rich Glacés .. 25s. 6d. the Dress—worth 35s.

Several hundred yards of Rich Corded Silks .. 33s. 6d. .. " .. 45s.

A large parcel of Foul de Soie .. 33s. 6d. .. " .. 50s.

Some Specialties in Gros Grains .. 33s. 6d. .. " .. 60s.

Extraordinary Bargains in White and Light-coloured Silks, Light Moiré, and Chinese Silks, suitable for evening Dresses or Ladies going abroad, from 2s. 11d. a yard.

PETERS and WINFIELD'S DRESS MATERIALS. We beg to call special attention to a large lot of goods, peculiarly adapted for the Colonies—such as something like 20,000 yards Light Fabrics, which, if kept over until next season, would realise from 10s. to 15s. the Dress, will be sold now for 4s. 11d.

A heap of Printed Muslins, at .. 4d. per yard, worth 10d.

15,000 yards Floral Printed ditto .. 6d. .. " .. 1s. 4d.

A large pile of rich Designs .. 6d. .. " .. 1s. 4d.

In this department Ladies will meet with Evening Grenadines, in profusion, at Half Price. Evening Tarlatans, in great quantities, equally cheap. Evening Gaze de Chambray, large lots—wonderful bargains. Evening Embroidered Muslins, desperately cheap. Evening Bargains in great variety, at a similar reduction.

BAKER and CRISP, 198, Regent-street.

CAMBRIO HANDKERCHIEF STOCK. Several boxes of Irish Lawn Handkerchiefs, 6s. 6d. per dozen, usually 10s. 6d.

Three cartons of fine French ditto, 5s. 9d. per dozen, usually 14s. 6d.

A large quantity of hemmed silk ditto, 6s. 11d. per dozen, usually 10s.

200 dozen very fine ditto ditto, 6s. 6d. per dozen, usually 12s. 6d.

100 dozen two and three tucked border ditto, 5s. 9d. per dozen, usually 10s. 6d.

Four cases finest China Grass 4 1/2, 6s. 6d. per dozen, usually 12s.

A quantity of Gentlemen's Cambric Handkerchiefs, quite as low in price as the foregoing lists.

An extraordinary lot of curiously-embroidered French Cambric Handkerchiefs, 27s. 6d. per doz., worth 2 guineas.

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EVENING DRESSES, 6s. 9d.—BAKER and CRISP are now selling upwards of 200 Evening Dresses at half price (including Peters and Winfield's stock), from 6s. 9d. to 12s. 6d. Full Dress. Patterns free.—198, Regent-street.

MOIRÉS ANTIQUES.—SEWELL and CO. have the largest Selection of Spitalfields Moirés, Antiques, in White, Black, and all the new Colours, at 4s. the Full Dress.

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FURNITURE CHINTZES.—SEWELL and CO'S Wide French CHINTZES, extraordinary bargains, from 1s. per yard. All his newest and most exquisite designs in the fashionable CRETONNE CHINTZES, from 2s. per yard.

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LUDGATE HILL—Rebuilding. JOHN HARVEY and SON continue their Business as usual.

NEW SILKS.—PATTERNS FREE. New Checked Glacés, 14 yards, £2 2s.

Patterns of 100 designs, gratis.

JOHN HARVEY and SON, Ludgate-hill.

BLACK FIGURED SILKS. Patterns free.

A large assortment of New Patterns, £2 5s. 6d. for 14 yards.

Black Gros Grains, Black Gros de Soie.

JOHN HARVEY and SON, Ludgate-hill.

MEXICAN POPLINS, in all useful Colours, 12s. 6d., 16s. 6d., for 12 yards, 1 wide. Chêné Poplins in all useful Colours, 14s. 6d., 16s. 6d., yard wide, and 12 yards. Silk Poplin Repe, yard wide, all Colours. A most useful and lady-like Dress.

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AUTUMN SERGES, Striped Linseys, Diagonal Serges, all Colours, 21s. 6d. and 42s. 12 yards. Striped Linseys, all the useful Colours and stripes.

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FIRST-CLASS CARPETS. Lowest prices. Price-list post-free.

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Carriage-free to any part of the Kingdom.

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SILKS! SILKS! SILKS! PATTERNS POST-FREE.

25-inch Black Glacé, best makes, 4s. 3d., 4s. 9d., and 5s. 3d. (worth considerably more); 40 inches wide, 5s. 11d. per yard, 7s. 2d.; 22 inches wide, 2s. 6d. New Tartan Silks, 21 1/2 in. wide, 10s. 4d. for 12 yards. Autumn Colours, in rich Gros-de-Soe, 10s. 4d. for 12 yards. Rich Broché Silks, from £2 7s. the Dress of 12 yards. WIDE-WIDTH PLAIN GLACÉS, THE NEW COLOURS, AT 42s. 6d. THE DRESS OF 14 YARDS. Silk Velvets, Frieze, and Terry, in all the New Colours for the JAMES SPENCE and CO., 77 and 78, St. Paul's-churchyard, London.

NEW HEATHER MIXTURES in ABERDEEN WINCEY'S. A Large Stock of the best Makes, made expressly for us in all the New Colours. New Violets, Browns, Greys, and Greens, price 1s. 6d., 1s. 11d.; very best, 2s. 6d.

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DRAPEES, DRESSMAKERS, and MILLINERS SUPPLIED WITH CUT LENGTHS AT TRADE PRICE.

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SILK REPPS (L'Eplangie de Roubaix), at 3s. 6d. yard wide (selling everywhere at 4s. 6d.), with the purest wool in the world, in brilliant Colours and Black. Suitable for morning or evening wear. Ladies, send for patterns.

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FRENCH MERINOS, in all the Brilliant Colours, at 2s. per yard, double width. Fine and soft wool fitting essential to the eyeing of bright and durable colours, the Merino is decidedly the best article to select for giving entire satisfaction. Every lady would do well to send for patterns.

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REAL ABERDEEN WINSEYS. The continued midweek of the season has caused fearful sacrifices in the price of this useful article. The best and widest are now only 1s. 6d. the yard, and a thousand pieces to select from. Patterns sent free.

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T. SIMPSON and CO'S FIVE THOUSAND YARDS of the material for making these rich and useful costumes in BLACK and COLOURS, 1s. 11d. to 2s. 6d., 2s. 11d., 3s. 11d., 4s. 11d., 5s. 11d., to 12s. 9d.

The whole from 2s. to 5s. per yard under value.

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